

= 9 "We have our own police department, and we work very closely with the city of Westerville. And the state highway patrol is certainly in charge of security at this event."

= 9 4. *Otterbein students are on spring break this week. But will any students to be involved in the State of the State?*

= 9

"We do have a couple of staff in our theater department who have been working closely with the governor's office in making the specific arrangements for the stage and lighting and the sound, and they give opportunities for students to help out behind the scenes... They'll be helping as stage hands and be there in backup if there are needs in terms of technology and lighting and sound."

= 9

5. *Will there be opportunities for students who are hanging out on campus to watch?*

= 9 "We're hosting -- along with the city and the chamber and the Westerville Library and Westerville Schools -- a reception for the General Assembly that evening before the address. And along with that for guests who come (to campus) who don't have tickets, there will be a watch party in the Campus Center, which is our student union."

= 9 **What's Going On**

= 9

8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. – PUCO to kick off PowerForward initiative: The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is set to begin a six-day "Ratemaking and Regulation" seminar with panel discussions and presentations on the future of Ohio's electric distribution system. *11th floor, 180 E. Broad St.*

= 9 **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Education groups to hold legislative conference:** The Buckeye Association of School Administrators, Ohio School Boards Association, Ohio Association of School Business Officials are hosting the event. *Sheraton Columbus at Capitol Square, 75 E. State St.*

= 9

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. -- Insurance industry update with Ohio Department of Insurance. *Westerville Public Library, Meeting Room A,*

126 S. State St. Westerville.

= 9 **10 a.m. – House Finance Committee:** The panel may vote on the capital budget (House Bill 529), as well as legislation to create an “OhioCorps” program (House Bill 508) and set up a \$100 million broadband grant program (House Bill 378). *Room 313, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 **10 to 11:30 a.m. – Panel discussion on textbook affordability:** OhioLINK and the Ohio Department of Higher Education are hosting the event. *Towers Hall, Otterbein University, 1 S. Grove St., Westerville.*

= 9

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Small Business Advisory Council. *Women’s Small Business Accelerator? 9s ThinkSpace, 24 Westview Dr., Westerville.*

= 9

10:30 a.m. – State officials to tout Ohio’s mineral resources: Department of Natural Resources Director Jim Zehringer, Ohio Department of Transportation Director Jerry Wray and JobsOhio Senior Adviser David Mustine are scheduled to highlight Ohio’s underground natural resources. *Horace R. Collins Lab, 3307 South Old State Rd., Delaware.*

= 9 **11 a.m. – Rich Cordray’s campaign to hold pre-debate press call:** Campaign Manager Michael Halle and other officials with the Democratic gubernatorial candidate’s campaign have scheduled a conference call with reporters.

= 9

Noon – Zack Space to speak at Akron Press Club: Tickets for the event with the Democratic candidate for state auditor are \$20 for club members, \$25 for non-members, and \$160 for a table of 8. *The Tangier, 532 W. Market St., Akron.*

= 9

1 to 3:30 p.m. – Governor’s Executive Workforce Board. *The Electrical Trades Center, 947 Goodale Blvd.*

= 9 **2:30 p.m. – Otterbein University to receive Tree City USA designation.** *Otterbein University Campus Center, 100 Home St., Westerville.*

= 9

7 p.m. – Gov. John Kasich’s State of the State address. *Fritzsche*

Theatre, Otterbein University, 30 S. Grove St., Westerville.

= 9

= 9 **Straight From The Source**

= 9

"I have made a lot of promises that I will not go into labor until after the #OHSOTS. This should be fun...."

= 9 - Hayley Call-Carducci, who handles social media for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, tweeting on Feb. 28. As of Monday, at least, she was making good on her promise not to deliver her baby until after Gov. John Kasich's State of the State address Tuesday night.

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One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at Capitolletter@cleveland.com.

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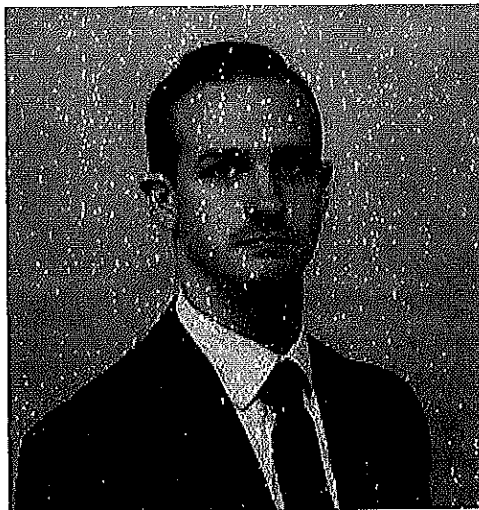
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From: Fleck, Craig
Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 9:26 AM
To: GOP_All
Subject: New GOP Additions

WELCOME

When you get a free minute, please make sure to introduce yourself and welcome the newest members of our team.



Asa Derry, LA Sprague

Asa is a ground supply Marine for the United States Marine Corps stationed out of Cross Lanes, West Virginia. He currently resides in Powell and grew up in Lancaster, Ohio. Asa transferred from Treasurer Mandel's Office where he served as a security guard. In Asa's free time he enjoys shooting guns and ballroom dancing.



AJ Thomas, LA Thompson

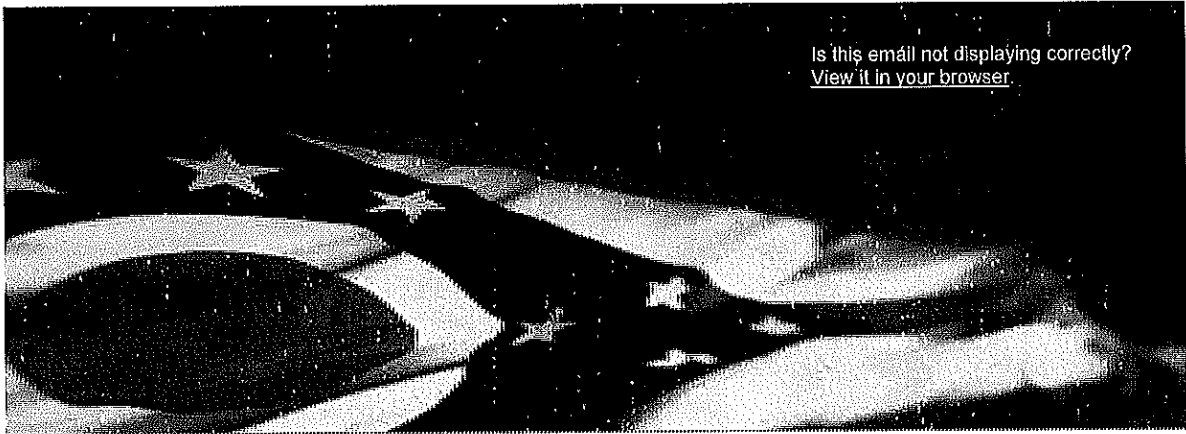
AJ is from Van Wert, Ohio and holds a double-major of Political Science and History from Ashland University, where he was an Ashbrook Scholar. AJ transferred to the House from the Attorney General's Office where he served as a Legal Secretary. Prior to working for the AG he worked for various political campaigns and as an intern for Congressman Latta's Washington DC office.

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Craig Fleck

Deputy Administrative Officer
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 12th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Cell: 440.376.6098
Office: 614.466.2175
Craig.fleck@ohiohouse.gov

From: Columbus Lawyers Chapter of the Federalist Society
Sent: Thursday, March 8, 2018 11:28 AM
To: Lenzo, Mike
Subject: 2018 Ohio Lawyers Chapters Conference



You are invited to attend:

2018 Ohio Lawyers Chapters Conference

April 6, 2018
The Westin Columbus
310 High St.
10:30 AM - 5 PM

Attend Event

On April 6, Federalist Society chapters from around the state will be host the Second Annual Ohio Lawyers Chapters Conference. You won't want to miss it. Participants include:

Hon. Mary DeGenaro

Associate Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

Hon. Gregory G. Katsas

United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit

Hon. Sharon Kennedy

Associate Justice, Ohio Supreme Court

Eric Murphy

Ohio State Solicitor

Chad A. Readler

Acting Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division
U.S. Department of Justice

Dave Yost

Ohio State Auditor

and many more

You can view the full schedule below. This is our chance to build on the phenomenal momentum we started last year. So **REGISTER NOW!**

Attend Event

Registration

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Opening Remarks

11:00 AM - 11:10 AM

- **Chad A. Readler**, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division, United States Department of Justice

Introduction to Originalism and Federalism: Where Are the Courts Heading?

11:10 AM - 12:15 PM

Since the 1980s, the originalist approach to constitutional interpretation has gained greater and greater acceptance in legal circles, and the number of originalists within the Supreme Court and the federal judiciary has grown. At the same time, originalism still has fierce critics who argue that it is an inappropriate method for constitutional interpretation. Likewise, in the last decades of the 20th century the U.S. Supreme Court breathed new life into a federalist view of the Constitution and the relationship between the federal government and the states. As with originalism, the federalist movement has its own strong critics. The panelists will discuss these two legal concepts. What are originalism and federalism, really? Are they valid or flawed? What developments may we see from the federal courts with regard to these concepts in the future—particularly in light of Neil Gorsuch's joining the U.S. Supreme Court in 2017? And how do these concepts apply to the work of ordinary legal practitioners?

- **Professor Jonathan Adler**, Johan Verheij Memorial Professor of Law; Director, Center for Business Law and Regulation, Case Western Reserve University School of Law
- **Eric Murphy**, State Solicitor, Ohio
- **Peter M. Shane**, Jacob E. Davis and Jacob E. Davis II Chair in Law, Ohio State University Moritz College of Law

- **Hon. Gregory G. Katsas**, United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit (**Moderator**)

Lunch

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM

Criminal Justice Reform: A Necessary Correction or a Dangerous Experiment?

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

Demand for criminal justice reform appears to be growing across the political spectrum. Bipartisan coalitions have formed to address overcriminalization, prison reform, bail bond reform, sentencing guidelines reform, and more. Panelists will explore these efforts. Are reforms truly needed, or does the criminal justice system already work well? If reforms are needed, what reforms are best—and are there reforms in other states that may be worth exploring in Ohio? What efforts have the Ohio General Assembly and the Ohio Supreme Court made to address criminal justice reform? Are there arguments that criminal law practitioners should be making in the courtroom in light of these legal developments?

- **Dave Yost**, Ohio State Auditor
- **Robert Alt**, President, Buckeye Institute
- **Heather Childs**, Vice President, Compliance, Capital One
- **Hon. Sharon Kennedy**, Associate Justice, Ohio Supreme Court (**Moderator**)

Analyzing Ohio's Judicial System and the Ohio Supreme Court

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

What methods of interpretation should Ohio courts use in constitutional matters and in

cases involving disputes over statutory text? Does the Ohio Supreme Court have obligations or restrictions different from those facing federal courts? Are there systemic problems in the Ohio judicial system that the Ohio Supreme Court needs to address? Has the Ohio Supreme Court improperly ignored established precedent or constitutional or statutory requirements in ways that need to be corrected? Can judges really maintain independence if they are elected by voters and must run in partisan primaries? If so, how? What role do lawyers play in building citizen trust and support in the judiciary? Candidates for the two current vacancies on the Ohio Supreme Court will share their views on how the Ohio Supreme Court should address these and other questions. They will also explain how their views are informed and shaped by the Ohio Constitution, the Ohio canons of judicial ethics, and past studies of the administration of justice in Ohio's courts.

- **Hon. Mary DeGenaro**, Associate Justice, Ohio Supreme Court
- **Hon. Craig Baldwin**, Fifth District Court of Appeals
- **Hon. Michael Donnelly**, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court

Reception

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Additional information and speakers to come.

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Register

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From: Finlay, Serena
Sent: Thursday, March 8, 2018 1:57 PM
To: Paretti, Dominic
Subject: Deadline Tomorrow: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

REMINDER-DEADLINE TO CO SPONSOR IS TOMORROW AT 4PM

Ohio House of Representatives



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Janine Boyd and Representative Kristin Boggs
DATE: February 5, 2018
RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

We will soon introduce legislation to create the Ohio Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. Today we chose to send this co-sponsor request as this date marks the 25th anniversary of FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act). This legislation will provide 12 weeks of family and medical leave benefits, which will permit individuals to care for a family member, bond with a new child, or address their own serious health condition.

Out of 178 countries worldwide, the United States is one of three that does not provide paid leave to new mothers. So far five states—California, New Jersey, New York, Hawaii and Rhode Island offer some sort of paid leave to men and women who provide care. The federal Family Medical Leave Act provides 12 weeks of leave for family and medical reasons. This time is unpaid and employers with fewer than 50 employees are exempt, which eliminates a large segment of workers. Ohio should lead on the issue of paid leave to grow our economy and allow working people to put family first.

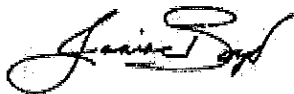
The program will be under the purview of the Department of Job and Family Services. An individual would receive leave insurance benefits for: a health condition which makes him/her unable to perform their job duties; caring for a new child during after birth, adoption, or foster care placement; caring for a child, parent, or spouse who has a serious health condition; or the individual is taking any other leave as authorized by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. In order to be eligible for program benefits, an individual must file a claim with ODJFS; must have worked at least 680 hours during the base period; premiums have been withheld and remitted for at least one year; and the leave must be for the above-mentioned purposes.

Once established, program benefits will be paid by assessing premiums on employees. Employers will be required to deduct and withhold premiums from employee's wages. However, an employer may opt to pay the contributions on behalf of employees.

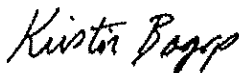
An employee who is covered by an employer policy or collective bargaining agreement that provides the employee with greater leave than that provided by the Family and Medical Leave Act may elect not to participate in the Program in accordance with rules adopted by the Director. An employee who elects to opt out of participating in the Program is not liable for any premium or contribution that would otherwise be due under the Program.

Working people in Ohio should not have to worry about losing their job or falling behind financially just to take care of a sick child or relative; address their own serious health condition; or care for and bond with their newborn child. Ohio cities like Dayton and Cincinnati are leading on leave. By allowing working people to put their family first, we can truly make Ohio a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

If you have any questions or would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Dominic Paretti, at 614-644-5079 or via email at Dominic.Paretti@OhioHouse.Gov and Serena Finlay, 614-466-1896 or via email at Serena.Finlay@OhioHouse.Gov. **The deadline to co-sponsor is Friday, March 9 at 4:00pm.**



Janine Boyd
State Representative, Ohio House District 09



Kristin Boggs
State Representative, Ohio House District 18

From: Fiore, Anthonio
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 7:03 PM
To: Fiore, Anthonio
CC: Elizabeth Murch
Subject: Urging Your Support for Sub. HB 189 Before the Spring Recess
Attachments: Eric_Bakken_Regis Corporation_Sub_HB_189_Letter_Of_Support_Signed.pdf; 2018_0316 OSA Ltr to All Ohio House Members Urging Support for Sub HB 189 - FINAL.pdf

Dear Ohio House members,

We are writing to ask for your **support** and **expeditious passage** of the **occupational licensure reforms** to Ohio's cosmetology industry contained in **Sub.HB 189** before the Spring recess. The announcement this week of more private cosmetology schools closing makes it more important than ever to pass the reforms contained in **Sub. HB 189**. **Six additional school closures** were announced bringing the total number to **28 closures since May 2015** (or around 30%). In addition, we have included a few items raised by opponents that we are willing to work on in the Senate if the bill is favorably passed off the House floor.

I've also attached a list of all public testimony o **HB 189**. In addition the **letters of support from smaller salon owners** around the state, we just received the attached letter of support from Regis Corp that has over 30 brands under its umbrella with hundreds of locations across all 88 counties.

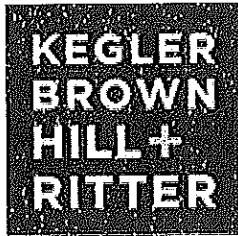
Have a great weekend. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Tony

Anthonio C. Fiore
Of Counsel

65 East State Street | Suite 1800 | Columbus, OH 43215
direct (614) 462-5428 | mobile (614) 906-8669 | fax (614) 464-2634



afiore@keglerbrown.com

[my bio](#) + [vCard](#) + [email](#)



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5th Hearing – March 7, 2018

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
<u>H. B. No. 189</u>	5th Hearing	—	<u>Download</u>	<u>Download</u>
Witness	Organization	Stance	Document	
Wezlynn Davis	null	Opponent	<u>Download</u>	
Patrick Thompson	null	Opponent	<u>Download</u>	
Don Boyd	Ohio Chamber of Commerce	Proponent		
Sue Carter Moore	Ohio Association of Cosmetology Schools	Opponent	<u>Download</u>	
Nancy Brown	Brown Aveda Institute	Opponent	<u>Download</u>	
Brandon Ogden	null	Proponent		
Natalie Lockhart	JCPenney Salon	Proponent		

4th Hearing – February 27, 2018

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
H. B. No. 189	4th Hearing	132 1073-3	Download	Download
Witness	Organization	Stance	Document	
Lisa Nelson	null	Proponent		
Ohio Salon Association	null	Proponent		
Don Boyd	null	Proponent		
Olara Osterhage	null	Proponent		
Chris Farnsworth	NFEA	Proponent		

3rd Hearing – June 21, 2017

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
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H. B. No. 189		3rd Hearing	—	Download	Download
Witness		Organization	Stance	Document	
Greg Lawson		The Buckeye Institute	Interested Party	Download	
Michael Shuh	null		Proponent	Download	
Mahana Yeager	null		Proponent	Download	
Dana Pallatos	null		Proponent	Download	
Bridget Sharpe	Professional Beauty Association		Proponent	Download	
Myra Reddy	Future of Beauty Industry Coalition		Proponent	Download	
NeCole Cumberlander	null		Proponent	Download	
Rowena Yeager	null		Proponent	Download	
Beth Hickey	null		Proponent	Download	
David Boucher, Additional	null		Proponent	Download	
David Boucher	null		Proponent	Download	
Rachelle King	null		Proponent	Download	
Kerry Sawyer	null		Proponent	Download	
Nancy Brown	null		Opponent	Download	
Wezlynn VanDyke Davis	null		Opponent	Download	
Patrick Thompson	null		Opponent	Download	
Angela Harvey	null		Opponent	Download	
Jill Hawkins Mitchell	null		Opponent	Download	
Gerry Reis	null		Opponent	Download	
Will Molden	null		Opponent	Download	
Chris Ferruso	NFIB		Proponent	Download	

2nd Hearing – May 23, 2017

Hearings

2nd Hearing May 13, 2021

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
H. B. No. 189	2nd Hearing	—	Download	Download

Witness	Organization	Stance	Document
Tony Hore	Ohio Salon Association	Proponent	View Document
Clara Osterhage	null	Proponent	View Document
Charles Penzone	The Charles Penzone Salons	Proponent	View Document
Mark Gambuzza	null	Proponent	View Document
Tom Yeager	Sport Clips	Proponent	View Document
Debra J. Iery	null	Proponent	View Document

Stefan Eckert	Great Clips	Proponent	Download
Bridge Sharpe	Professional Beauty Association	Proponent	Download
Frank Schoeneman	Empire Education Group	Proponent	Download
Tom Quick and Lisa Groome	Roosters Men's Grooming Center	Proponent	Download
Casha Shepline	null	Proponent	Download
Gordon Logan	Sports Clips	Proponent	Download
Dub Nelson	Roosters Men's Grooming Centers	Proponent	Download

1st Hearing – May 17, 2017

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
H. B. No. 189	1st Hearing	—	Download	Download
Witness	Organization	Stance	Document	
Rep. Roegner	null	Proponent	Download	
Rep. Reece	null	Proponent	Download	



7201 Metro Boulevard | Minneapolis, MN 55439 | 952-947-7777

March 15, 2018

To: All Ohio House of Representatives

From: Eric Bakken
EVP, President—Franchise

RE: Urging your support for Sub. HB 189

My name is Eric Bakken, and I serve as the Executive Vice President and President—Franchise for Regis Corporation. I'm writing to urge your support for Sub. HB 189.

Regis Corporation is a leader in beauty salons and cosmetology education. As of December 31, 2017, the we owned, operated, franchised or held ownership interests in over 8,800 locations worldwide. We also maintain an ownership interest in Empire Education Group in the U.S. Regis owns or franchises 386 salon locations in Ohio, amounting to over 2,000 stylists and managers in the state. We operate under several brands in all 88 counties throughout Ohio, including: Best Cuts, Borics Hair Care, Famous Hair, Fiesta Salons, First Choice Haircutters, Haircrafters, Mastercuts, Regis Salons, Roosters, Saturdays, SmartStyle, and Supercuts.

At Regis, we are deeply committed to providing our customers with the safest and highest quality experience in our salons. To achieve this, we ensure our stylists and managers are properly educated and licensed in accordance with state regulations. We also offer our team members continued education and training to refine their skills, keep on trend and to stay in tune with the latest sanitary protocols. However, our industry has become increasingly competitive, most of which is attributable to a shortage in skilled labor. That's why for over four years, Regis has supported a group called the Future of the Beauty Industry Coalition (FBIC) whose main purpose is to provide reasonable reforms to state cosmetology law using research and analytics from all 50 states.

The FBIC consists of cosmetologists, students, salon owners, manufacturers, distributors, and cosmetology schools. The FBIC values our industry's appreciation of safety and quality, and therefore has proposed Sub. HB 189 which modifies the existing law and reduces the Ohio license minimum hour requirements from 1,500 to 1,000, as opposed to a complete deregulation of the industry. In addition, Sub. HB 189 lays the groundwork for model occupational licensing reform legislation for the cosmetology industry in all 50 states and helps to eliminate a barrier of entry into our industry.

The minimum 1,500 hours state licensing requirement serves as a barrier of entry into the beauty industry. In addition, Ohio's reciprocity law requires a licensee to sit for an Ohio exam even though they may have passed another state's licensing exam a month or so before. This doesn't help our stylist be mobile in deciding where to work and live, especially near Ohio's boarding counties. Sub. HB 189 reduces the hours to 1,000 hours for a full cosmetology license and helps out of state licensees come to Ohio to work and raise a family.

For these reasons, I am writing on behalf of Regis Corporation in support of the Ohio Salon Association's proposed comprehensive reform package to Ohio's cosmetology laws contained in Sub. HB 189 (and the

REGIS

7201 Metro Boulevard | Minneapolis, MN 55439 | 952-947-7777

companion bill in the Ohio Senate, SB 129). This reform is a positive step for our industry, and I respectfully request this committee's support on the work being done here.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to submit this letter in support of Sub. HB 189.



Eric Bakken
EVP, President—Franchise
Regis Corporation



OSA

OHIO SALON ASSOCIATION

March 16, 2018

Dear Representative:

We are writing to ask for your support and expeditious passage of the occupational licensure reforms to Ohio's cosmetology industry contained in **Sub. HB 189** next Wednesday, March 21, 2018. The announcement this week of more private cosmetology schools closing makes it more important than ever to pass the reforms contained in **Sub. HB 189**. Six additional school closures were announced bringing the total number to 28 closures since May 2015 (around 30%). In addition, we have included a few items raised by opponents that we are willing to work on in the Senate if the bill is favorably passed off the House floor.

Sub. HB 189 will:

- 1) **Support Ohio's Attainment Goal 2025, that includes:**
 - a) helping more Ohioans compete for quality jobs that pay a family-sustaining wage and lead to career advancement;
 - b) removing barriers to education and employment for individuals;
 - c) helping Ohio employers find the talent they need to succeed and grow;
 - d) providing effective and efficient job training aligned to in-demand occupations and employer needs resulting in workplace-valued credentials; and
 - e) assisting in achieving the attainment goal of the Governor's Executive Workforce Board, Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Higher Education to have 65% of Ohioans ages 25 to 65 achieve a credential/license or degree by 2025. (Ohioans are currently at 43% of that attainment goal.)
- 2) **Lower hours to reduce the barrier for women, men and minorities to enter the beauty industry.**

The bill:

 - a) supports the notion that government should only mandate the minimum number of hours necessary to ensure safe and sanitary cosmetology practices as a barrier to entry into the profession – **1,000 hours is the correct requirement** – though some believe this is still too many hours;
 - b) equalizes the government mandated hours between public and private schools. Public schools in Ohio are already teaching at 1,000 hours and producing graduates who are entering the workforce with similar graduation rates, licensure rates and earning potential;
 - c) maintains high training standards without mandating an additional 500 hours on private school students. A national study as well as salon owners indicate that **more time in school does not make the student more job ready**;
 - d) acknowledges that there are currently more public students entering the profession at 1,000 hours of training rather than private schools at 1,500 hours;
 - e) ensures private schools are still able to obtain federal funding for students at 1,000 hours, can require 500 additional hours and charge whatever they want for tuition – the question is whether students will be willing to pay for and attend such programs – the free market will decide; and,
 - f) creates an **apprenticeship option** for future cosmetology students to earn a wage while they learn about the beauty industry. Under today's 1,500-hour program students are forced to pay tuition and provide services to the public in school clinics without compensation for hundreds of hours.

- 3) **Stop Ohio law from unfairly requiring private cosmetology education mandating 1,500 hours at the expense of students when public schools already teach at 1,000 hours.** There is no risk to public safety if a cosmetologist attending a private school achieves 1,000 hours for a license just like the public school student does today. In Ohio today:

- Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) attend 150 hours of training.
- Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) attend 1376 hours of training.
- Police officers attend 695 hours of training.
- Paramedics attend 800 hours of training.

- 4) **Make Ohio a "RECIPROCITY-IN" state--our focus must be on job opportunities in Ohio.** Many states do not require licensees to take any additional education or even an exam when seeking reciprocity after one to two years of practicing as was indicated by a recent LSC review. The bill:

- a) removes the requirement of taking exams in Ohio if already licensed in another state;
- b) removes the requirement that the standards in Ohio for obtaining the license the applicant seeks are substantially equal to the other state or country's requirements;
- c) allows licensees to enter the workforce sooner with less debt;
- d) permits work experience/hours to count towards licensing hours when seeking to transfer a license to another state;
- e) requires the Ohio Board to use a national exam which makes our licensees more marketable in other states; and,
- f) maintains high standards, but makes it easier to practice in Ohio than in most states.

Although private school opponents have refused to attend interested party meetings we have addressed several issues raised by them and have highlighted the changes below. These changes are in Sub. HB 189. The substitute bill:

- a) permits pre-graduate testing to help increase licensure rates;
- b) returns manicuring hours from 100 to 200;
- c) returns esthetics hours from 300 to 600;
- d) removes the 5-year experience requirement for instructors;
- e) removes the language increasing the surety bond from \$10,000 to \$100,000 for schools; and,
- f) requires salons and schools of cosmetology to work in partnership to establish the apprenticeship program.

As mentioned above, the OSA has been trying to address as many of the opponents concerns as possible throughout this legislative process. We are committed to working on the following issues raised by the opponents in the Senate if Sub. HB 189 passes out of the House:

Opponents concern: *Getting rid of the advanced license is deregulating our profession.*

- **OSA Response:** The advanced license doesn't provide students with marketable skills that garner a higher wage and is not recognized in other states. Since it was created a few years ago schools did not adapt and work to provide input on curriculum to make it valuable. Schools can still offer 1,500 hours' worth of classes or any other advanced classes they wish. There is no law preventing them from offering classes that exceed the minimum. And funding is available for up to 1,500 hours so they can get paid. The state should only legislate minimums for occupational licenses that are barriers to entry into a profession. In reality private schools combine the initial license at 1,500 hours and the advanced license at 300 hours and require students to attend and pay for an 1,800-hour program. This cannot be the case in the future.
- **OSA Compromise:** The OSA will support changing Sub. HB 189 in the Senate to preserve the Advance License for those licensees as of the effective date of the bill, so those individuals can indefinitely renew this license. This still provides any school the opportunity to create an Advanced

Certificate program, but such a program will not carry with it state mandated hours. Schools are free to provide cosmetology programs above the 1,000-hour requirement under Sub. HB 189 – the question is whether students will pay for the additional training and education – the free market will decide.

Opponents concern: *Natural Hair Styling license is valuable and should stay. It negatively affects ethnic populations to get rid of it including salon owners.*

- **OSA Response:** The first time OSA heard opposition to removing the Natural Hair Stylist license came on Wednesday, March 7th in the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee hearing on Sub. HB 189.
- This license is not widely utilized—and it is quite burdensome at 450 hours of education to sit for the licensing exam. For instance, based on the Board's 2017 Annual Report there were 5 active and one new individuals with a natural hair stylist license, one active and one new individuals had a natural hair stylist instructor license, 34 active and 45 new individuals had an advanced natural hair stylist license, and there were 14 active and 4 newly licensed natural hair stylist salons. Compare this to 17,639 active and 2,708 new cosmetology licensees for the same period.
- **OSA compromise:** With that said, so long as the braiding registration stays in the law, we would compromise to allow the natural hair stylist license to stay in as well.

Opponents concern: *The way the definitions are in this bill make hair design the same as cosmetology at 800 hours.*

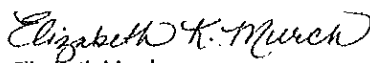
- **OSA Response:** The Ohio State Cosmetology and Barbering Board staff provided the language in the bill to clarify the practice of cosmetology which was included in the substitute bill.
 - Their intent was that cosmetology is defined as providing all the branches of cosmetology, and they believed the definition of cosmetology could not include cosmetology.
 - There has never been an intention of having a full cosmetology license 800-hour program as the opponents claim.
- **OSA compromise:** The OSA supports amending the final bill in the Senate to clarify and make clear that a full cosmetology license requires 1,000 hours, a hair design license requires 800 hours, an esthetics license requires 600 hours, a manicuring license requires 200 hours and a natural hair stylist license requires 450 hours.

The opponents should actually work with salon owners to address significant issues in the beauty industry, especially the fact that 28 private schools of cosmetology (or 30%) have abruptly closed their doors since May of 2015 and we expect more. These closures have required students to find alternate programs to finish their training very little to compensate them for these schools failing to help them become licensed and find employment in the beauty industry.

The Ohio Salon Association is focused on cosmetology student success, school success and addressing workforce issues for all salons and job providers in Ohio.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We have attached a list of business owners as well as state and national associations supporting HB 189 and SB 129.

Please feel free to contact our lobbyist, Tony Fiore, at afiore@keglerbrown.com or 614-462-5428 if you have any questions about this legislation.


Elizabeth Murch
Executive Director


Tony Fiore
Legislative Counsel

Supporters of Ohio HB 189 and SB 129

Arthur Gray Holdings, Inc.	Holiday Hair	QuickGroome, Inc. - Roosters
Beauty Supply Outlet	Hyland MH Retreats, LLC	Quiddity Partners, LLC
Best Cuts	Hyland Properties, LLC	R.L.O., Inc.
Bhooshay Enterprises of Ohio, LLC	Institute for Justice	Rachelle King
Blue Co. Brands	Intercoiffure America/Canada International Salon/Spa	RamseyRooney & Co.
Borics Hair Care	Business Network	Regis Salon
Burben Investments, Inc.	j.calico, LLC	S&L Cuts, Inc.
Carlton Hair	JaNaMo Enterprises, Inc.	SARJNT, Inc.
Charles Penzone, Inc.	Jay-Mar Enterprises, LLC	Sassoon Salon
Cincy Clips, Inc.	JC Penney Salons	Saturday's Hair Salon
City Looks Salons	JM Elliott Enterprise, LLC	Sawyer Business Group, Inc.
Cool Cuts	Kerry and Anthony Sawyer	Scott Burandt
Cost Cutters	Lake House Holdings, LLC	SDM Partners, Inc.
Courtne Wesselman	Laventure, Inc.	Shaun Norton dba SportClips
CSJ Ventures, Inc.	LGC Properties Management	Signature Style Salons
DANDREA, LLC	LST Clips, Inc.	SmartStyle Hair Salons
Daniel Feiwell – No LLC	M&M Wardeiner, Inc.	SportClips
Demer Retail Ventures, LLC	Majicuts	SRL Clips, LLC
Eckert, Inc. dba Great Clips	MasterCuts	Studio Wish Salon
Empire Beauty Schools	Maxco, Inc.	Style America
Esquire Holdings, LLC	Maxxco, LLC	Supercuts
Famous Hair	Michael's Salon and Spa	Tasha Sheipline
Fiesta Salons	MMAO, LLC	TGF Hair Salon
FirstChoice HairCutters	NeCole Cumberlander	The 220 Group, Ltd.
Future of the Beauty Industry Coalition	NFIB/Ohio	Professional Beauty Association
Gem City Clips	North Coast Partners, LLC	The Visage Group
Gold Coast Ventures, LLC	Norton Clips, LLC	Tillery Enterprises, Inc.
Great Clips	Oakpoint Partners, Inc.	Tillery Salons, Inc.
Great Expectations	Ohio Chamber of Commerce	TJTKR Enterprises, Inc.
Hair Crafters	Ohio Salon Association	Trinity Leadership 6, LLC
Hair Masters	Outlooks for Hair	Trinity Leadership 7, LLC
Hair Plus	Panopoulos Salons	Ulla
Head Start Haircare	Park 50 Clips, LLC	Vanity Ventures, Inc.
	Pro Cuts	We Care Hair

From: Capitol Letter

Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 6:15 AM

To: Lenzo, Mike

Subject: Counties tell state to provide money for Medicaid work requirement plan

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Monday, March 19, 2018

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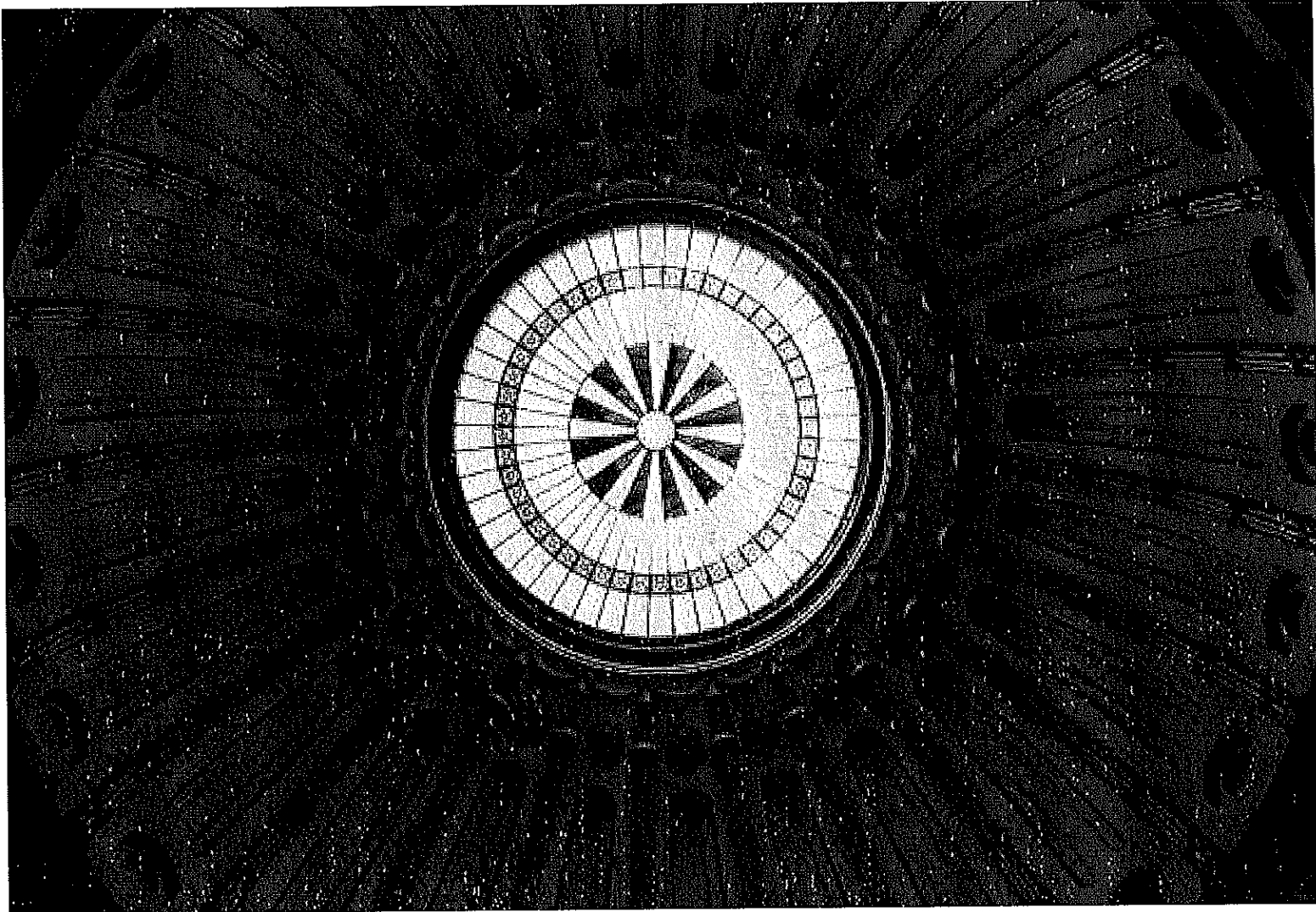
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Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

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= 9 **Rotunda Rumblings**

= 9 **Money, personnel concerns:** The County Commissioners Association of Ohio, in a Friday letter to Ohio Medicaid Director Barbara Sears, asked the state to find money to help local governments if it wants to

require recipients to work at least 20 hours a week. The letter said county job and family service agencies would have to determine who is eligible for Medicaid expansion under the new requirements. Yet the system is stretched due to increasing caseloads and less state money. The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services told states "that it will not make additional resources available for job training, child care assistance, transportation, or other work supports," the letter states.

= 9 **Tech updates:** Ohio's proposal exempts Medicaid recipients from work if they're disabled or caretakers. In the letter, the counties asked the state to make technology updates before imposing the work requirements, so the governments can easily identify who is exempt and who needs to work. Sunday was the last day Ohio Medicaid accepted comments on its work proposal, which Republicans in Columbus and Washington generally support. The department is expected to review the comments and possibly tweak the proposal, then ship it to D.C. for approval.

= 9

No fracking way: Columbus Democratic Rep. David Leland introduced a bill Friday he said would protect the state's parks and nature preserves from the impacts of hydraulic fracturing by prohibiting new wells on land typically enjoyed by families and outdoor recreation lovers. The bill comes after Thursday's first meeting of the Ohio Oil and Gas Leasing Commission. The commission is supposed to review and grant oil and gas companies leases to explore, drill and frack on state land. The legislature created the commission in 2011, but Gov. John Kasich took six years to name commissioners, who spent Thursday learning about public records laws and ethics requirements of serving on a government board.

= 9 **Reach out and treat someone:** Health insurers would be required to provide coverage for telemedicine services on the same basis as in-person services, under new legislation in the Ohio House. Under House Bill 546, insurance companies would not be allowed to exclude coverage for telemedicine services, nor impose a lifetime benefit maximum for such services. But it would still allow insurers to bill at different rates for telemedicine. Republican Rep. Tom Patton, the bill's sponsor, argues the measure would allow faster access to care and ensure that rural Ohioans who might not have a doctor nearby can use services such as remote patient monitoring.

= **A Precourt kicks back:** Anthony Precourt, owner of the Columbus Crew, argued in a Friday letter to Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther that he doesn't believe a state law can prevent the Major League Soccer franchise from moving to Austin, Texas. And even if it did, Precourt believes he has satisfied the law's requirement that he notify the city that he's leaving and give it an opportunity to purchase the team. If anyone wants to buy the team, he said they need to contact him, according to the letter.

= **9 DeWine's response:** GOP Attorney General Mike DeWine and the city are suing Precourt over his desire to move the team. DeWine said Friday that the case will continue. He sees the letter as the beginning of a six-month period in which Precourt must provide a reasonable opportunity for local investors to purchase the Crew.

= **9 Dems gain in OH-12 forecast:** The Cook Political Report has downgraded Republicans' chances of holding onto Ohio's 12th congressional district from "Likely Republican" to "Leans Republican." The Report's Dave Wasserman wrote Friday that like Pennsylvania's 18th district, which flipped to the Democrats last week, OH-12 "combines well-educated suburbs with a lot of old union bastions — except it's even less Republican." Wasserman also notes "Democrats may have a promising candidate there" — a likely reference to Franklin County Recorder Danny O'Connor. The report's re-scoring came a day after Sabato's Crystal Ball similarly nudged its OH-12 rating a bit toward the Democrats.

= 9

Southern comfort: Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray has picked up endorsements from 14 county Democratic party chairs in Southern Ohio, including: Adams, Athens, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton counties.

= **9 Top 10 Ohio House Democratic primaries to watch in 2018**

= 9

District 10: Downtown Cleveland, Bratenahl

= 9 **Who's running:** Nelson Cintron Jr., TJ Dow, Kyle Earley, Aanand Mehta, Ronnie Jones, Billy Sharp, Terrence Upchurch, Danielle Shepherd.

= 9 Everyone and their mom seems to be running to succeed term-limited Rep. Bill Patmon in this heavily Democratic district in central Cleveland. Upchurch has the endorsement of the Cuyahoga County Democrats (which will publicize him via their sample ballot). Earley, a pastor and a former top aide to ex-state Sen. Nina Turner, has the backing of the Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus. Dow, a former Cleveland city councilman, has a voter base, though he's currently facing allegations of voter fraud. Cintron, also a former Cleveland councilman, is these days a perennial candidate with little chance of winning. Mehta, an attorney at JonesDay, has some well-regarded operatives helping his campaign -- including Michael Bowen, who ran Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's re-election campaign last year. With so many candidates, the race will likely be decided by who has the best voter turnout operation.

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District 12: Part of Cleveland's West Side, Maple Heights, Pepper Pike, and other parts of east suburban Cuyahoga County

= 9 **Who's running:** Juanita Brent, Patrice Brown, Earl W. Campbell Sr., Yvanka Hall, Dimitri McDaniel, Isaac Powell

= 9 Brent, the daughter of the late activist and ex-Rep. Vermel Whalen, has a leg up as the endorsed candidate of the Cuyahoga County Democrats, though she recently got media coverage for an overdue driver's license renewal (noteworthy mainly because Ed FitzGerald's 2014 gubernatorial campaign was sunk in part by a similar, though far more serious, issue). Hall, the executive director of the Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition, is the progressives' choice. McDaniel is a Case Western Reserve University law student and a former aide to state Sen. Sandra Williams. The other candidates are either political unknowns or perennial candidates.

= 9

District 13: Lakewood, part of Cleveland's West Side, Linndale

= 9 **Who's running:** Tom Bullock, Mike Skindell

= 9 Skindell is very well known in the district, having represented the area in the legislature since 2003. But Bullock, a Lakewood city councilman, has momentum, scoring endorsements so far from the Cuyahoga County Democrats, U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur, and the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats, among others. The campaign is taking place amid a battle for the Cuyahoga County Democrats between establishment Dems and progressives. Skindell is affiliated with the Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus; Bullock is considered more of an establishment candidate, though he's been careful not to tie himself to a particular side.

= A **District 19:** Northeast Franklin County, including Gahanna and New Albany

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Who's running: Noni Banks, Mary Lightbody

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Observers predict this will be a close race between two Westerville residents: Lightbody, a Harvard grad and longtime K-12 and university science teacher, and Banks, founder of The Diva Movement, a women's leadership organization. Lightbody entered the race before Banks, but that advantage could be eroded by Banks if she proves to be a strong fundraiser and campaigner. The Franklin County Democrats declined to endorse in the race.

= 9 **District 24:** Parts of western/central Franklin County, including Hilliard and Upper Arlington

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Who's running: Andrea Bonny, Mary Relotto, Allison Russo

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Relotto and Russo are the early favorites in this suburban Columbus district. Russo, a health-policy researcher from Upper Arlington, is the more establishment-y candidate; Relotto, founder of the all-female career networking site Dames Bond, is the more progressive and activist-y candidate. Bonny, a pediatrician from Upper Arlington, is a comparative unknown, having entered the race relatively recently. The Franklin County Democrats didn't endorse in the race.

= 9 **District 26:** Southeastern Columbus

= 9 **Who's running:** Erica Crawley, Michael Cole

= 9 Crawley, a U.S. Navy veteran and law clerk, won the endorsement from the Franklin County Democrats, giving the first-time candidate an edge in the race to succeed Rep. Hearcel Craig in a heavily Democratic district covering southeast and part of western Columbus. But don't count out Cole, a Columbus City School Board member whose name is only a syllable different from Michael Coleman, the popular former mayor of Columbus.

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District 50: Eastern Stark County

= 9 **Who's running:** Cassie Gabelt, Courtlen Vizzuso

= 9

Outgoing Republican Rep. Christina Hagan's seat, which covers the eastern half of Stark County, is a longshot for Democrats in November. But it still features an interesting primary between Gabelt, a U.S. Navy veteran from Alliance who works as a mediator, and Vizzuso, a recent Ohio University grad from Alliance who was recruited by Run For Something, a national PAC that recruits young Dems to run for office. Gabelt is perhaps the early favorite, given she entered the race earlier and has support from local progressive groups.

= 9

District 56: Northwestern Lorain County

= 9 **Who's running:** Mark Ballard II, Joe Miller, Claudia Olaes, Cory Shawver

= 9 Shawver and Miller are the early frontrunners in the race to take over term-limited Rep. Dan Ramos's seat in this Democratic-friendly district. As a resident of Lorain, Shawver (the former executive director of the Lorain County Democrats) has a geographic advantage over Miller, a councilman from the smaller city of Amherst (a non-Lorain resident has never won the district in recent memory). But Miller, a high-school teacher, could pick up support from education organizations, and he was recently endorsed by the Ohio AFL-CIO. Ballard, a law student, is the son of a Lorain school board member and a former district director for ex-U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton. Olaes is a student at Oberlin College.

= 9 **District 59:** Western, central, and southern Mahoning County

= 9 **Who's running:** Larry Moliterno, Eric Ungaro

= 9

Ungaro, a Poland Township trustee, is perhaps the slight favorite to win the district, currently held by outgoing Democratic Rep. John Boccieri. The son of ex-Youngstown Mayor Pat Ungaro, Eric easily won the Mahoning County Democrats' endorsement for the seat. But Moliterno, as a trustee for Boardman Township (the largest township in Mahoning County), has a power base, and he's been in the race longer than Ungaro. High voter turnout in the primary would likely benefit Ungaro.

= 9 **District 75:** Southern half of Portage County

= 9 **Who's running:** Denise Baba, Randi Clites, Alice Freitas

= 9

Clites and Baba are the frontrunners to take over term-limited Rep. Kathleen Clyde's seat in southern Portage County. Clites entered the race more than a year ago – the Ravenna resident hasn't run for office before, though as an associate director with the Northern Ohio Hemophilia Foundation, she successfully lobbied the Ohio House to preserve funding for a children's medical assistance program. Baba, a former TV reporter, serves on the Streetsboro Board of Education and is ex-president of the Ohio School Boards Association. Freitas, who entered the race at the last minute, is the former president of a transgender advocacy group at Kent State University.

= 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

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Pack a school lunch and a gun: State Rep. Niraj Antani said law-abiding 18-year-olds should be allowed to carry guns at school, according to cleveland.com's Cliff Pinckard. Then, after criticism mounted online, the Miamisburg Republican claimed on Twitter he did a poor job explaining his position, which actually was that he doesn't advocate arming students.

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Humble brag: Gov. John Kasich personally called the Columbus Dispatch and apologized for saying a story about lackluster job creation numbers

was "fake news," writes the Dispatch's Darrel Rowland. Last week, Rowland wrote that job creation in 2017 was lower under Kasich than Democratic Gov. Ted Strickland's last year in office – based on inaccurate numbers provided by the state that have since been corrected.

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Jordan backs Hagan: Shortly after highlighting, then criticizing a Washington Post profile on her U.S. House candidacy, state Rep. Christina Hagan on Friday received the endorsement of House Freedom Caucus leader U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan of Lima, reports cleveland.com's Andrew Tobias.

= 9

Dann elaborating on guns: On cleveland.com's Ohio Matters podcast, former Democratic AG Mark Dann shared his view that the NRA controls the gun debate. He also said Democratic gov candidate Dennis Kucinich's proposal to ban assault weapons could mobilize the Democratic base.

= 9 **Bharara boost:** Former federal prosecutor and outspoken White House critic Preet Bharara was in Ohio Sunday, helping a fellow former U.S. attorney, Democrat Steven Dettelbach, raise money for his Ohio attorney general race. Bharara tells the Associated Press it is only the second time he's raised money for a candidate since President Donald Trump fired him last year.

= 9

Dog fight: The Dispatch reports that a bill that attempts to head off a proposed constitutional amendment outlawing puppy mills gets a vote on the House floor this week. However, the Humane Society of the United States prefers the amendment proposal over House Bill 506.

= 9 **Happy birthday:** Cleveland.com editorial writer Thomas Suddes opines that the Ohio General Assembly has too relaxed an attitude on LGBTQ rights, since a nondiscrimination measure hasn't made it to the House floor after nearly a year since it's been introduced. Ditto with the year-old House Bill 123, which would cap payday lending interest rates and fees.

= 9 **Ethics question:** Pharmacist Margaret Scott had responsibility over Ohio Medicaid's drug program, but left her state job last fall and then was hired by CVS, according to the Dispatch, which is questioning whether her

actions were ethical. CVS affiliate Caremark is hired by Medicaid managed care insurers as a pharmacy benefit manager, setting pharmacy rates and negotiating drug rebates.

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Welcome: Melissa Ackison, a GOP U.S. Senate candidate, released a campaign video in which she invited her opponents to her house to view her gun collection, the Dispatch reports.

= 9 **Full Disclosure**

= 9 Five things we learned from Granville Township Republican Rep. Scott Ryan's May 15 ethics disclosure statement.

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1. In addition to his legislative duties, from which he earned \$66,367 in 2016, he's an agent with SHAI Commercial Real Estate Ltd. in Granville.

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2. He listed three business ventures that he or his family were involved in: Newark Leader Printing Co. and Leader Printing, both of which he owns stock in, and Ryan Joint Venture, a company he said he inherited and partly owns.

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3. He's a volunteer board member of the Licking County Family YMCA and the Columbus District Golf Association.

= 9 4. His credit cards give him travel benefits: He owed at least \$1,000 in 2016 each to Chase Marriott Visa, Chase Southwest Visa and AAA Visa. He also owed money to a Sears charge card, two Citibank cards, Bank of America Visa, Chase Slate Visa, Park National Bank, Universal 1 Credit Union and Discover.

= 9 5. He received \$1,719.25 in mileage reimbursement from the state for his trips between home and the General Assembly. His campaign committee reimbursed him \$2,236 in mileage. And he traveled to Denver for a higher ed training for the nonpartisan National Conference of State Legislatures, for which he was reimbursed \$454.20 for airfare, \$433.76 for lodging and \$85.44 for ground transportation.

= 9 **What's Going On**

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2:45 p.m. – Jon Husted to campaign in Lima: The secretary of state and GOP candidate for lieutenant governor is slated to speak and take questions from voters. *Club UNOH, 1450 N. Cable Rd. Lima.*

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5:30 p.m. – Sen. Sandra Williams fundraiser: Sponsor levels for the Cleveland Democrat range from \$50 to \$500. *Crop Bistro & Bar, 2537 Lorain Ave., Cleveland.*

= 9 **6:30 p.m. -- Ohioans for Gun Safety meeting:** The group is not optimistic Ohio legislators will enact sufficient background checks for gun purchases and will talk about drafting a ballot measure for as soon as 2019. *SEIU District 1199, 1771 E. 30th St, Cleveland.*

= 9 **Birthdays**

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Matt Damschroder, chief of staff to Secretary of State Jon Husted

= 9 **Straight From The Source**

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"I think people overwhelmingly wonder about President Trump when he calls everybody else names, including people in his own party, but he never, ever criticizes Putin. So I would guess 70 percent, 80 percent of the people in Ohio, including Trump voters, really do wonder what exactly it is between Putin and Trump that we don't know details about yet."

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-U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown on "Meet the Press" Sunday

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One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at Capitolletter@cleveland.com.

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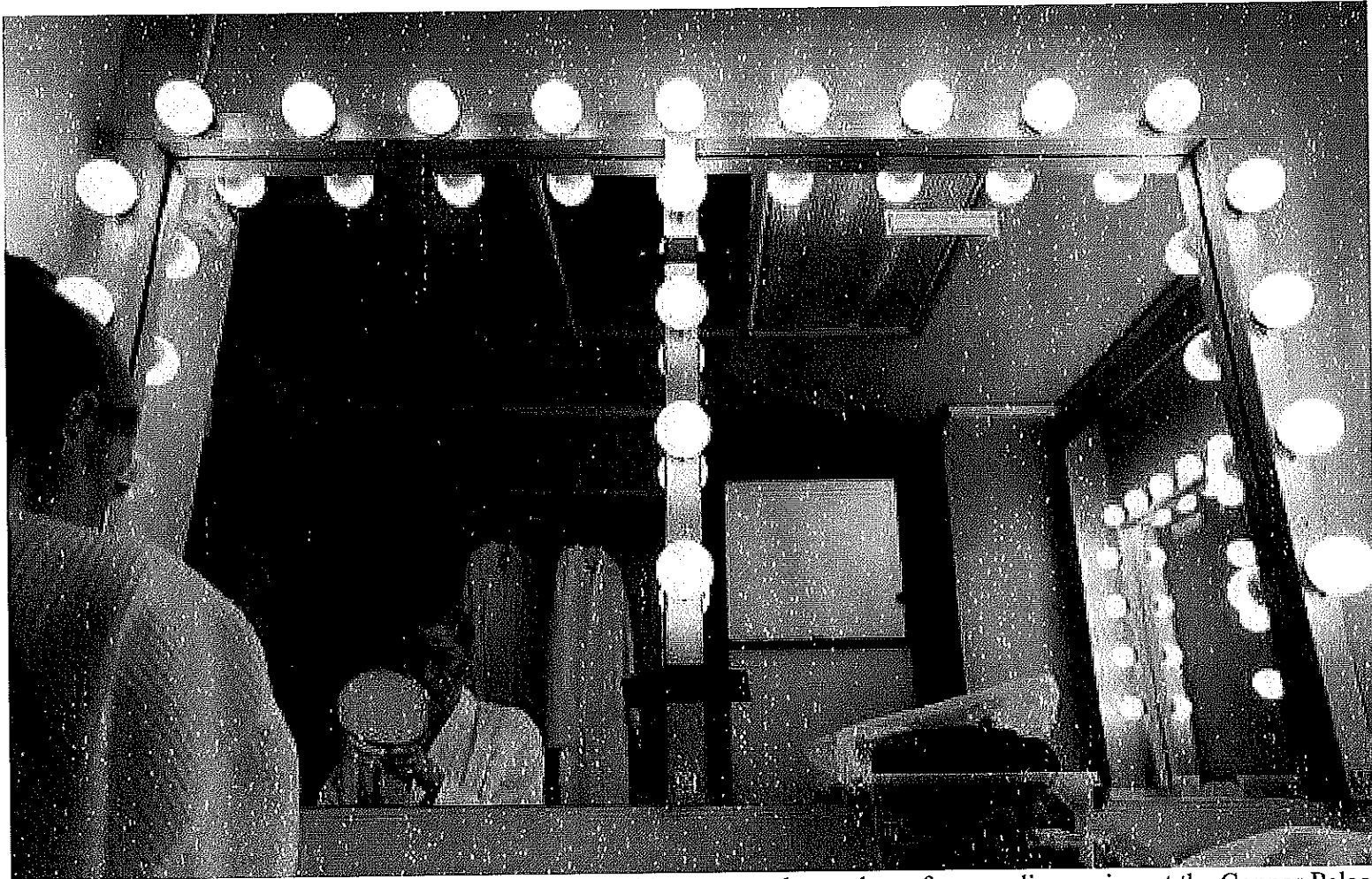
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Subject: Groups concerned about bill boosting film tax credit

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A Grace Stockdale, a member of the "Waitress" ensemble, prepares her makeup for a media preview at the Connor Palace Oct. 11, in Cleveland. An Ohio General Assembly bill would allow some Broadway productions to apply for the state's film tax credit, and it would more than double the amount available for productions. (Gus Chan / The Plain Dealer)

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= 9 **Rotunda Rumbblings**

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Not seeing stars: Ohio is far from La La Land and the few states where the motion picture industry is concentrated, making a bill that would significantly increase the state's film tax credit unnecessary, says Wendy Patton of the left-leaning Policy Matters Ohio. House Bill 525 would increase the credit from \$40 million to \$100 million annually and would make some Broadway productions eligible for the credit. But Patton told a

House committee Tuesday that entertainment is not one of nine sectors targeted by JobsOhio, and the bill would put the film tax credit on par with the Job Creation Tax Credit, the state's biggest economic development credit.

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Shifting the tax burden? HB 525 would more than double the commercial activity tax credits available to the entertainment industry, the Ohio Manufacturers' Association's Rob Brundrett noted in testimony. Chipping away at the tax base will eventually require an overall tax rate increase to collect the same level of revenue, he said.

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Fight to keep the lights on: FirstEnergy's IT employees regularly send the rest of the company email phishing tests and analyze why people bite, Scott Hipkins, the company's director of security and infrastructure operations, told the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Tuesday. Utilities told PUCO that they are dedicated to fighting cyberattacks. Since at least 2016, the Russian government has hacked networks of small U.S. commercial electric facilities to attempt to compromise the grid. In 2015, Russia compromised IT systems of three energy distribution companies in Ukraine and disrupted the power supply. "We know that we, as a grid if you will, are going to be on someone's list, somewhere around the world, so we have to constantly stay on our game," said Stan Partlow, AEP's chief security officer.

= 9 **Vote yes:** Union County Commissioner Gary Lee and Lake County Commissioner Daniel Troy, who is president of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, pressed lawmakers Tuesday to advance a bill that would provide the local governments with nearly \$115 million to upgrade voting technology. Senate Bill 135 also would create a bipartisan committee of state and local officials to negotiate with vendors on voting equipment. The conservative Buckeye Institute's Greg Larsen also told the Senate Finance Committee that while he supports the bill, he thinks it should be part of the capital budget and not standalone legislation, since it would fund state infrastructure, and elections are a core government responsibility.

= 9 **Packed House:** The Ohio House's busy voting agenda on Wednesday includes bills to curb traffic cameras (House Bill 410), create a permanent

three-day sales tax holiday for clothing and school supplies (Senate Bill 226), require local governments to pass a resolution to file a property-tax complaint, and impose new rules on high-volume dog breeders (House Bill 506) in an attempt to head off an anti-puppy mill ballot issue.

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Speed ahead: The House Finance Committee on Tuesday waved forward bipartisan legislation to set up a \$100 million broadband grant program, though it first approved a sub bill with a number of mostly minor changes – including a specification that applications for grant money would be prioritized based on Internet speed above other factors.

= 9 **Oops:** The Franklin County Democrats' endorsed candidate to flip Senate District 3 won't make the ballot this year. On Tuesday, Secretary of State Jon Husted ruled that Gahanna attorney Nate Dowds didn't have enough valid signatures, because one of his petitions was circulated by multiple people (which state law doesn't allow). The decision means that Tina Maharath, a financial analyst from Canal Winchester who hasn't run for office before, will be the lone Democrat on the ballot in the race to challenge Rep. Anne Gonzales for the suburban Columbus seat. The job is now held by term-limited GOP Sen. Kevin Bacon.

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Would you like Chipps with that? Besides Maharath, there's also a Democratic write-in candidate for SD-3: Katherine Chipps, a political consultant whose previous jobs include president of NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio and executive director of the Franklin County Democratic Party. It's still unclear, though, whether local Democrats might back Chipps for the nomination instead of Maharath (Chipps didn't leave the county party on the best of terms).

= 9 **Boggs wins appeal:** Husted also ruled Tuesday that Rep. Kristin Boggs can run for re-election as a write-in candidate in House District 18. Boggs, a Columbus Democrat, hastily filed to run as a write-in after being tipped off that she failed to sign one of her signature petitions to appear on the ballot. Now, Boggs needs 50 constituents to write in her name on the ballot to qualify for the November election (which she's expected to win easily over Republican David Todd).

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ORTL endorsements: The political arm of Ohio Right To Life, the state's

largest anti-abortion group, issued its 2018 endorsements on Tuesday, and it backs Rep. Larry Householder. For those watching the Ohio House speaker's race, Rep. Ryan Smith, who is expected to compete against Householder for the spot, was not endorsed. However, ORTL President Mike Gonidakis tweeted it would be reckless, at best, to say that his group was getting behind Team Householder, noting that it also endorsed a number of pro-Smith candidates.

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Kasich builds his resume: Gov. John Kasich will spend his final months in office as chair of the Midwestern Governors Association, with an agenda focused on how to prepare Midwestern workers for new high-tech jobs. Kasich will host the 12-member bipartisan public-policy group at a September summit in Columbus, according to the Associated Press.

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Renacci endorsement: The Ohio Black Republican Association voted unanimously to endorse U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci for U.S. Senate, his campaign announced Tuesday.

= 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

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Comfortable position: Democratic incumbent Sherrod Brown is ahead of both leading Republican candidates for U.S. Senate, according to new statewide polling from Baldwin Wallace University. Cleveland.com's Rich Exner reports that Brown leads Rep. Jim Renacci 41 percent to 29 percent and businessman Mike Gibbons 41 percent to 31 percent.

= 9 **Life support:** The Ohio Right to Life endorsements also included candidates in two contested Republican primary elections, reports cleveland.com's Andrew Tobias. The group's PAC is endorsing Renacci for U.S. Senate and Anthony Gonzalez, a former professional football player, for Ohio's 16th Congressional District.

= 9 **High energy:** Tobias covered a Tuesday night forum on gerrymandering that drew a capacity crowd of about 100 to an education center in Beachwood. The freewheeling discussion explored whether a congressional redistricting reform issue on the May ballot would do enough to prevent a majority party from drawing another unfair map.

= 9 **Open fire:** A Super PAC supporting Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor's bid for governor, Onward Ohio, launched statewide TV ads attacking her Republican primary opponent, Attorney General Mike DeWine, according to Tobias. The spots compare DeWine unfavorably to President Donald Trump on trade, guns and illegal immigration.

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Return fire: DeWine on Tuesday announced a statewide ad campaign and a website that goes after Taylor. The ad is titled "Unfit, Unqualified." Tobias has the details.

= 9

Not quitting: As she pursues her run for governor, Taylor has become one of Gov. John Kasich's biggest critics. When asked why she continues to work for him, Taylor said she stays in the Kasich administration because she's "not a quitter," Tobias writes.

= 9

Not quitting, Part 2: A petition and letter signed by dozens of Ohio activists demanded that Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center remove Jane Portman, wife of Republican U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, from the hospital board of trustees, because of the \$3.5 million her husband received in campaign contributions from the National Rifle Association, reports Cincinnati.com's Anne Saker. But a hospital official says Jane Portman will stay.

= 9

Hold on Lab lovers: PETA is worried about Republican Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek's bill that would recognize the Labrador retriever as the official state dog of Ohio, reports the Columbus Dispatch's Jim Siegel. Although the animal welfare organization recognizes the good intentions of the bill, it fears that it could encourage puppy mills to produce the dogs in greater numbers.

= 9 **Full Disclosure**

= 9

Five things we learned from Salem Republican Rep. Tim Ginter's May 15 ethics disclosure statement.

= A 1. He's a pastor at Church of the Center in Salem, in addition to his work as a lawmaker. In 2016, he earned \$66,584 legislating and \$25,000 to \$49,999 preaching.

= 9

2. He is invested in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation and three mutual funds.

= 9 3. He owed at least \$1,000 each to Chase Freedom and Bank of America in 2016.

= 9

4. The state reimbursed him \$5,424.64 in mileage between Columbus and Mahoning County.

= A 5. He received a gift valued at over \$75 from GOP donor Virginia Ragan.

= 9 **What's Going On Today**

= 9

8 to 9:30 a.m. – Reps. Tim Ginter and Bill Reineke fundraising breakfast: The Republicans are seeking donations between \$350 and \$1,000. *Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St.*

= 9

8 to 9:30 a.m. – Reps. Emilia Sykes and Brigid Kelly fundraiser: The Democrats are seeking contributions between \$350 and \$1,000. *Einstein Bros. Bagels, 41 S. High St.*

= 9 **8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Southwest Ohio Advocacy Day:** The event is being held by the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber of Commerce. *Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 **9 a.m. to 10 a.m. – Immunization Advocacy Network of Ohio breakfast briefing:** Invited speakers include state Reps. Anne Gonzales and Al Landis, as well as members of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Ohio chapter. *Bistro Room, Capital Club, 50 S. Front St.*

= 9 **9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America advocacy day:** The gun-control group will convene at Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. Broad St., before heading to the Ohio Statehouse.

= 9 **9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – American Traffic Services Safety Association advocacy day.** *Rotunda, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 10 a.m. – Obhof to discuss report showing need for fewer regulations: Senate President Larry Obhof is set to join George Mason University researchers to discuss their report showing the negative effect of regulations on Ohio's economy. *Harding Senate Press Room, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – UFCW Ohio Lobby Day: Members of the United Food and Commercial Workers union plan to speak with lawmakers.

= 9 10:30 a.m. – Democratic senators to unveil gun safety bill: Sens. Sandra Williams and Joe Schiavoni will be joined by representatives of Moms Demand Action. The event will be streamed live on the Ohio Channel. *Senate Minority Caucus Conference Room, Suite 230, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Rep. Scott Lipps fundraising luncheon: Sponsor levels for the Franklin Republican range from \$350 to \$1,000. *Due Amici, 67 E. Gay St.*

= 9 Noon – AEI President Arthur Brooks to speak at luncheon: The Buckeye Institute is hosting the event with the president of the American Enterprise Institute, a national conservative think tank. *Crystal Room, 2nd floor, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St.*

= 9 1:30 p.m. – Senate session.

= 9 1:30 p.m. – House session.

= 9 1:30 p.m. – UFCW to endorse Richard Cordray for governor: The Democratic candidate plans to be on hand to accept the endorsement of the union. *West side steps, Ohio Statehouse.*

= A 1:30 p.m. – Public Utilities Commission of Ohio meeting. *Room 11B, 180 E. Broad St.*

= 9 2:30 p.m. – Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee: The

panel may amend legislation to plug orphaned oil and gas wells (House Bill 225). *Finance Hearing Room, Senate Building.*

= A **3:45 p.m. – DeWine, Husted to meet with SW Ohio law enforcement leaders:** Republican gubernatorial candidate Mike DeWine and running mate Jon Husted are scheduled to hold a news conference with Hamilton County Prosecutor Joe Deters and Butler County Sheriff Richard Jones. *12th floor, Residence Inn Downtown Cincinnati, 506 E. 4th St., Cincinnati.*

= 9

4 to 6 p.m. – Ohio Energy Group legislative reception. *Atrium, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 **5 to 7 p.m. – Sen. Kenny Yuko fundraiser:** Sponsor levels for the Senate minority leader range from \$500 to \$2,500. *Milestone 229, 229 Civic Center Dr.*

= 9 **5 to 6:30 p.m. – Reps. Bob Cupp and Dick Stein fundraiser:** The Republicans are seeking contributions between \$350 and \$1,000. *The Buckeye Bourbon House, 36 E. Gay St.*

= 9

5:30 to 7 p.m. – Reps. Tavia Galonski and Catherine Ingram fundraiser: The Democrats are seeking donations between \$250 and \$1,000. *Westies Gastropub, 940 S. Front St.*

= 9

6 p.m. – Kevin Bacon congressional fundraiser: The Republican candidate for Ohio 12th Congressional District is seeking contributions between \$100 and \$1,000. *Old Bag of Nails-Pour House Tavern, 57 Mill St., Gahanna.*

= 9 **Birthdays**

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Joseph Vance, Ohio's 13th governor (1786)

= 9 **Straight From The Source**

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"Congressman, I want to keep you focused on this, and respectfully, let=

2s..."

= 9 "I want to keep you focused on the facts."

= 9

-MSNBC's Katy Tur and U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan of Champaign County, respectively, during a heated TV discussion Monday about President Donald Trump and Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation.

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From: Capitol Letter
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 6:15 AM
To: Lenzo, Mike
Subject: Changes coming to education consolidation bill

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Monday, March 26, 2018

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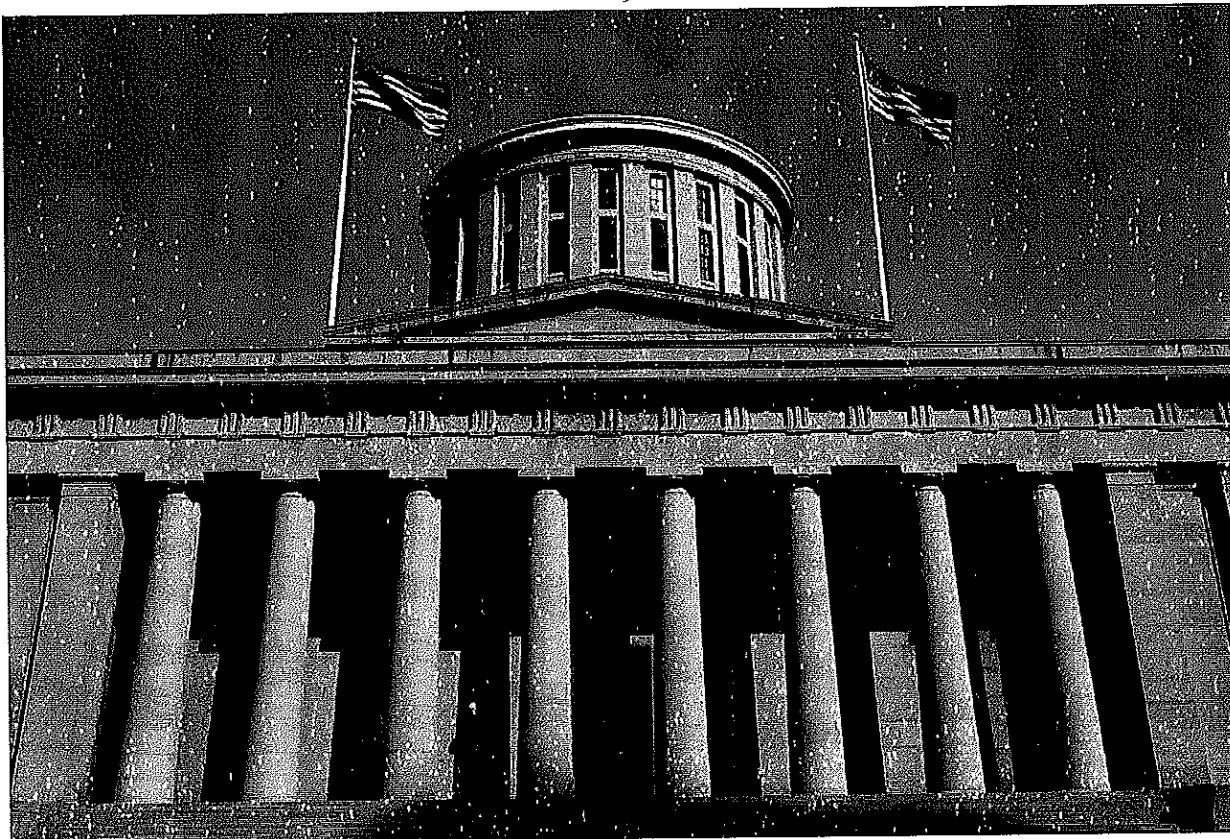
Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

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Rotunda Rumblings

= 9 **Substitute bill in the works:** Rep. Bill Reineke is working on revising his bill that strips power from the state education department and school board and gives it to the governor. He said he is working with people who are concerned about the bill. The school board, the Ohio Education Association and the Ohio Federation of Teachers oppose it. However, many in business support the bill, including Vince Squillace of the Ohio Homebuilders Association, who testified last week, saying there are not enough skilled trades workers. He said "training our work force should stand alongside other academic priorities."

= 9 **Cream of the crop:** Wondering which legislative races to keep an eye on during primary election night? Here are Capitol Letter's Top 10 Ohio House Republican primaries to watch in 2018. And if you haven't already, make sure to check out which races made our list of the Top 10 Ohio House Democratic primaries.

= 9 **Taking the sting out of beekeeping:** A bill that would protect beekeepers who are registered with the Department of Agriculture from liability if someone is stung or hurt by their hive equipment is headed to the Senate. The House passed House Bill 392 last week.

= 9

Painting happy trees: A new House bill would license art therapists in Ohio, which its sponsor said would promote the profession as effective in treating people who need help with avoidance, trauma and developmental disabilities. Rep. Marlene Anielski, who is sponsoring House Bill 557, told members of the House Health Committee last week that research of veterans diagnosed with PTSD showed art therapy was more effective than talk therapy.

= 9

Script for a horror film? The conservative Buckeye Institute is joining its liberal counterpart, Policy Matters Ohio, in opposition to increasing the state's film tax credit to \$100 million a year. Broadway productions could also qualify for the credit under House Bill 525. But the Buckeye Institute said that Massachusetts had to cut spending to pay for its film credit, which resulted in 1,400 jobs lost and only 222 jobs gained by the credit. The bill is sponsored by the No. 2 in House GOP leadership, Rep. Kirk Schuring, and co-sponsored by House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger -- meaning it has a good chance of becoming law.

= 9 **Keep calm and budget on:** State Auditor Dave Yost has some reassuring words for local governments facing a declaration of fiscal emergency. "It's not as bad as most fear," asserts the Republican, who's running for attorney general, in a new report. The report goes into detail about what various municipalities around the state did to get out of fiscal emergency. Most of the solutions, not surprisingly, involved either raising revenue or cutting expenses.

= 9

Stories We're Talking About

= 9 **Trump to visit Northeast Ohio:** President Donald Trump is set to visit Richfield in Summit County Thursday to discuss his infrastructure initiatives, according to cleveland.com's Sabrina Eaton.

= 9 **Sexism in politics:** Democratic secretary of state candidate Kathleen Clyde and Republican treasurer candidate Sandy O'Brien agree that two big challenges for women candidates in Ohio are fundraising and networking. But as cleveland.com's Mary Kilpatrick writes, O'Brien considers it a more debilitating issue than Clyde, "perhaps because of their respective places on opposite sides of the aisle."

= 9 **Filibuster fan:** On the latest episode of cleveland.com's "Ohio Matters" podcast, Attorney General Mike DeWine says he's proud of the work he did as a U.S. senator to keep the filibuster for judicial nominees. DeWine said Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor is "dead wrong" to criticize him for it.

= 9 **Getting an opioid fix:** State and federal officials floated several ideas last week about how to address the ongoing opioid addiction crisis, cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt reports. National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins, speaking at Ohio State University, said research will be crucial to stop overdose deaths and treat addiction. U.S. Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta announced \$21 million in anti-opioid job-training grants. And Mike DeWine backed the Ohio State Chiropractic Association's call for greater awareness of chiropractor care for pain patients.

= 9 **Bill dead:** A bill that was to reduce the annual cost of living adjustment to state retirees in an attempt to shore up the Ohio Public Employees Retirement system is dead, reports the Columbus Dispatch's Catherine Candisky. Retirees complained to lawmakers that they made their decisions about when to retire based on the current 3 percent increase, and there are not enough votes for House Bill 413.

= 9

Marching on: Thousands of protesters called for increased gun control during "March For Our Lives" rallies on Saturday in Cincinnati, Columbus,

and Cleveland, among other major cities in Ohio and nationwide.

= 9

Trigger warning: Gov. John Kasich said Sunday on CNN that voters should oust lawmakers who don't enact reforms to address gun violence. "If they do not bring about change, I think people should absolutely be held accountable at the ballot box," the governor said.

= 9 **Different aims:** One Ohio legislator, Sen. Joe Uecker, didn't see eye to eye on gun reforms with student activists during a meeting last week. The Clermont County Republican told the students an assault weapons ban would restrict too many guns. He said they would save more lives if they focused on traffic safety instead. "I just think they don't have a full understanding of what the problem is," Uecker said of the students, according to the Cincinnati Enquirer's Chrissie Thompson.

= 9 **What's the Plan now?** There are worries about the future of the state's "Youngstown Plan," passed in 2015 to rescue the city's ailing school district by putting it under state control. The Vindicator's Amanda Tonoli writes that many of the original players with the plan are jumping ship, including the district's CEO.

= 9 **Ackison attacks:** Republican U.S. Senate candidate Melissa Ackison, speaking with the Sandusky Register on Friday, didn't have very nice words for primary frontrunner Jim Renacci or the Ohio Republican Party's decision to endorse him. As the Register's Tom Jackson writes, Ackison said the state party's endorsement has "decimated" people's faith in the process. "Jim Renacci, you could put a bow on his head and give him as a gift to Sen. Brown because Brown will destroy Renacci," she added.

= 9

Tales from the trail: The four major Democratic candidates for governor have been hitting the campaign trail hard in recent weeks, and the Dispatch's Marty Schladen has been tagging along with them. Among the things he learned: Richard Cordray conceded it wasn't ideal to stay out of the race until December but said he felt an "obligation" to stay at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau until he hammered out a payday lending rule, among other things. Bill O'Neill, meanwhile, is only now starting to fill his schedule with campaign activities and said he's still in the race because he couldn't push Cordray into supporting marijuana

legalization.

= 9 **Sticking around:** Contrary to Democratic chatter (or wishful thinking), Republican U.S. Rep. Steve Chabot has no plans to retire. As the Enquirer's Jason Williams writes, "Republicans say Chabot is ready to do battle with Democratic up-and-comer Aftab Pureval in Ohio's 1st Congressional District."

= 9 **Full Disclosure**

= 9

Five things we learned from Akron Democratic Sen. Vernon Sykes' May 15 ethics disclosure statement.

= 9 1. In 2016, he wasn't in the General Assembly but worked as a political science professor and director of the Columbus Program in State Issues at Kent State University, earning between \$50,000 and \$99,999. He drew \$50,000 to \$99,999 from the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. And he earned \$10,000 to \$24,999 in rental income that year.

= 9 2. He was a board member of the Akron Area YMCA and the Child Guidance and Family Solutions last year. He was on Summa Health's government relations committee and a partner in Vernon and Barbara Skyes and Associates, a property rental company.

= 9

3. In addition to investing in OPERS, he has mutual funds with Lincoln Financial, the State Teachers Retirement System and Ohio Deferred Compensation.

= 9

4. In addition to his primary residence, he owned property on Rich Street in Columbus and Howard Street in Akron.

= A 5. He owed at least \$1,000 each in 2016 to Chase, American Express, Fifth Third Bank, Huntington Bank and Capital One.

= 9

On the Move

= 9 Columbiana County Common Pleas Court Magistrate Kathleen J.

Bartlett was appointed by Gov. John Kasich on Friday to fill Ohio Supreme Court Justice Mary DeGeraro's vacant seat on the Seventh District Court of Appeals.

= 9

Guy Coviello, the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber's vice president of government affairs, has been named by Kasich to the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission.

= 9 **What's Going On**

= 9

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board. *Ohio Department of Public Safety atrium, 1970 W. Broad St.*

= 9 **10 a.m. – Press conference on gun violence prevention legislation:** Democratic Sen. Cecil Thomas will be joined by local gun safety advocates to announce a package of bills. *Washington Park, 1230 Elm St., Cincinnati.*

= 9 **1:30 p.m. – Controlling Board.** *North Hearing Room, Senate Building.*

= 9

1:30 p.m. – Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review. *Finance Hearing Room, Senate Building.*

= 9

2 p.m. – Mary Taylor to campaign in Seneca, Ottawa counties: The lieutenant governor and GOP gubernatorial candidate has stops planned in Tiffin at 2 p.m. and Port Clinton at 4 p.m.

= 9 **6 to 7 p.m. – Joe Schiavoni to hold town hall on fertility center errors:** The Democratic gubernatorial candidate and state senator plans to talk about freezer problems at clinics in Cleveland and California that may have damaged thousands of eggs and embryos. *Newburgh Heights Community Center, 3801 Harvard Ave., Newburgh Heights.*

= 9

6 p.m. – Secretary of State/LG candidate Jon Husted to keynote Pike County GOP Lincoln Day Dinner. *World Alive Fellowship, 204 Commercial Blvd., Piketon.*

= 9 **Straight From The Source**

= 9

"Marching, holding rallies, communicating with our public officials wasn't enough (to the point) that we had to be more involved directly. There are many people who are very qualified like us who might not have been interested in working in politics who are now stepping up, putting our money where our mouth is and saying we're going to take this risk and run for office."

= 9 - Democrat Lauren Friedman of Jackson Township, who is running for the Ohio Senate against Republican Kirk Schuring, who is now the influential speaker pro tempore in the House. Friedman and Democrat Lorraine Wilburn, who is in an Ohio House race against Scott Oelslager, the powerful chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, were profiled by the Canton Repository.

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From: Capitol Letter

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 6:15 AM

To: Lenzo, Mike

Subject: Senator seeks to stop cities from taxing execs' golden parachutes

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Wednesday, March 28, 2018

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Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

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Rotunda Rumblings

= 9 **Dropping the 'golden parachute' tax?** Cities are likely going to kiss goodbye income taxes from golden parachutes and other financial windfalls parting executives receive. Ohio Senate Pro Tempore Bob Peterson told Capitol Letter Tuesday that he's helping draft an amendment to a soon-to-be identified bill that will no longer treat the money -- technically called supplemental executive retirement plans (SERPs) -- as taxable income. Instead, SERPs will be subject to taxes as they're drawn throughout retirement. Cities will get hit if the General Assembly adopts the measure, the Ohio Municipal League's Kent Scarrett said.

= 9

Abbreviated history: Ohio cities and the legislature have been at odds over SERPs for years. Both sides agreed to leave the benefits out of the municipal tax overhaul legislation in 2014, since the Ohio Supreme Court

was about to weigh in on the issue. In the fall, the court sided with a SERP recipient that his money wasn't taxable income. Peterson argues the court's decision means the legislature needs to clarify that SERPs are not subject to municipal income tax. He said the amendment will come in the next two months. Scarrett, however, believes the two cities affected by the Supreme Court decision simply had poorly written tax laws, and that the decision doesn't apply across the state.

= 9 **Pop off the cap:** When people are injured in a car accident or hurt in a slip and fall, the amount of money they can receive in punitive damages is generally capped under Ohio law, said Sen. John Eklund, who is an attorney. However, there's an exception when a defendant intended to cause someone harm. Then the cap is lifted. Eklund wants to expand the exemption to allow people to collect more damages when a crime has been committed -- for instance if someone was injured by a drunken driver who was convicted of aggravated vehicular assault. Eklund= 2s Senate Bill 280 would allow the cap to be lifted if someone has been convicted of a felony in criminal court.

= 9 **Health-care equality:** A handful of Ohio public hospitals and health care systems were recognized in a new Human Rights Campaign report for LGBTQ inclusion. That means employee training for non-discrimination, transgender services and support or having pro-gay employee policies. Those singled out: MetroHealth, University of Toledo Medical Center, Columbus Public Health Department and Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center, as well as OSU's James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute.

= 9 **Yes on 1:** Ohio GOP leadership on Tuesday night endorsed Issue 1, the congressional redistricting plan, the party announced on Twitter. Last month, Ohio Democratic Party leaders also voted to support the bipartisan proposal.

= 9 **Candidate endorsement roundup:** Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rich Cordray on Tuesday was backed by The Ohio Association of Public School Employees (OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4).

= 9 The Lake County Republican Party on Monday endorsed U.S. Senate

candidate Jim Renacci.

= 9

Ohio 12th Congressional District Republican candidate Melanie Leneghan has picked up the support of Ohio Value Voters, an anti-abortion group.

= 9 Ohio 12th Congressional District Democratic candidate Danny O'Connor has won the backing of the Sheet Metal Workers International Union and the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District 6.

= 9 Rep. Christina Hagan, a GOP candidate for Ohio's 16th Congressional District, has been endorsed by another anti-abortion group, the Susan B. Anthony List.

= 9 **Local support?** The Franklin County Democratic Party's executive committee is slated to vote Wednesday on endorsing Cordray for governor. Cordray, who lives in south suburban Columbus, has already scored endorsements from a large number of Franklin County Democrats, including Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther, ex-Mayor Michael Coleman, and Columbus City Council President Shannon Hardin. Things could get interesting, though, as primary rivals Joe Schiavoni and Dennis Kucinich are expected to be at the meeting along with Cordray.

= 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

= 9

Stranger than fiction: The weird drama in a Dayton-area House race continued Tuesday, with challenger Jocelyn Smith calling for Republican Rep. Rick Perales to step down and to take a lie detector test, Lynn Hulsey of the Dayton Daily News reports. Perales has denied Smith's accusation that he choked and kissed her three years ago, but he acknowledges that he carried on a sexting relationship with her. She said she would release text messages between them if he didn't resign. House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger is reviewing the allegations, Hulsey reports.

= 9 **Gaming it out:** "The Ohio Casino Control Commission is expected on April 23 to launch a new system to license and regulate games of skill such as claw machines that nab prizes or arcade games that issue tokens or tickets," cleveland.com's Karen Farkas reports. A 2015 state law gave the commission oversight of the games, and it has been drafting rules and

license fees for them.

= 9 **Eyes on Ohio:** NBC News listed the Ohio Democratic and Republican governor's primaries among the 10 "most compelling, contentious or consequential primaries to watch."

= 9 **Kasich and Cuban:** Gov. John Kasich will be on a panel with businessman Mark Cuban at Ohio State University Monday to talk about the impact of automation and innovation, the Columbus Dispatch's Randy Ludlow reports. It's part of the Axios "Smarter Faster Revolution" tour.

= 9

It's ugly: Ludlow also has an update on the increasingly nasty and personal Republican governor's race between Attorney General Mike DeWine and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor.

= 9 **Five Questions**

= 9 Giulia Cambieri is deputy communications director for the Ohio Senate Democrats.

= 9 1. *You don't have the usual background of an Ohio legislative staffer. How did you make it to the Ohio General Assembly?*

= 9

"I was born and raised in Italy. I moved here three years ago – my husband is American and works and lives in Columbus. At the time, I was living in London – that's where we met -- and it was just easier for me to move across the Atlantic than for him at the time. My background is in journalism, so when I moved here three years ago, I decided I wanted to switch from journalism, and I started looking for jobs."

= 9

2. *What is the difference between journalism here versus in Europe?*

= 9 "Where I'm from, and I lived both in Italy and in France, journalists have more of almost, like, an intellectual role. Reporters are significant, but for the most part, journalists are expected to give their opinions."

= 9 3. *Are you planning to stay in Ohio for good?*

= A = 2 We're not sure. At some point, we would probably like to get close to one side of our family, and that's probably going to be my husband's side, which lives in the Boston area. But we don't really have a time frame for when that's going to happen, so I see myself in Columbus for at least another two years – and then, who knows?

= 9 4. *What would you be doing if you weren't doing your current job?*

= 9 "Probably open a cafe with a book shop next to it. I love reading and just the culture of American cafes."

= 9

5. *Any book recommendations?*

= 9 "I recently finished reading *The Power* by Naomi Alderman. It's really good, and I just love how she reverses gender stereotypes. It's quite impressive to think that she wrote it before the election of President Trump, because it's definitely reminiscent of a lot of the themes that came out during the campaign."

= 9

On The Move

= 9 Andrew Kidd has joined the conservative Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center as a senior level economist. He will analyze the impact of state and federal policies on peoples' lives and the economy. Kidd most recently researched BadgerCare, Wisconsin's low-income health coverage program, at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

= 9 Tyler Shankel also joined Buckeye's Economic Research Center as an economic policy analyst. He earned a bachelor's degree from Ohio State University and attended University of Colorado Boulder's economics doctorate program before returning to Columbus.

= 9 What's Going On Today

= 9

9:15 a.m. – David Pepper to meet with reporters outside DeWine-Husted event: Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper is scheduled to hold a media availability in advance of a Mike DeWine and

Jon Husted panel on entrepreneurship. *Outside of Rev1 Ventures, 1275 Kinnear Rd.*

= 9 **10 a.m. – Mike DeWine, Jon Husted to discuss entrepreneurship:** The Republican gubernatorial ticket is set to hold a panel discussion with Ohio entrepreneurs. *Rev1 Ventures, 1275 Kinnear Rd.*

= 9 **10 a.m. – Mary Taylor continues Western Ohio campaign tour:** The lieutenant governor and GOP gubernatorial candidate's schedule includes stops in Urbana at 10 a.m., Bellefontaine at 1 p.m., and Celina at 4 p.m.

= 9
10 a.m. – State Personnel Board of Review. *12th floor, 65 E. State St., Columbus.*

= 9 **1 p.m. – Rob Portman to visit Utica ice-cream maker:** The Republican U.S. senator is set to tour Velvet Ice Cream headquarters as part of his "Results for the Middle-Class Tax Reform Tour." *1324 Mt. Vernon Rd., Utica.*

= 9
1:30 p.m. – Public Utilities Commission of Ohio meeting. *Room 11B, 180 E. Broad St.*

= 9
6 to 8 p.m. – Franklin County Democratic Party Executive Committee meeting. *Columbus Firefighters Union, 379 W. Broad St.*

= 9 **6:30 to 8 p.m. – Rob Richardson for treasurer fundraiser:** The Cincinnati Democrat is seeking donations between \$250 and \$2,500. Scheduled attendees include Ohio Democratic Party Chair David Pepper and Cincinnati City Councilman PG Sittenfeld. Pepper's parents, Francie and John Pepper, are hosting the event at their Cincinnati home.

= 9 **Birthdays**

= 9 Terese Herhold, Ohio Senate Democrats' director of policy, budget and finance

= 9 Rep. Paul Zeltwanger

= 9 **Straight From The Source**

= 9

"As a former cop, I saw how devastating gun violence is to our communities. Not too long ago I knelt next to a young man who was shot and left dying in the street. Now that I'm in this position, it has given me a new energy to combat this problem. #Enough."

= 9

- State Sen. Cecil Thomas, a Cincinnati Democrat, touting on Twitter Tuesday a package of gun-control legislation he is sponsoring.

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Subject: Bill aims to force online travel sites to pay more sales, lodging taxes

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Monday, April 2, 2018

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Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

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= 9 Columbus Catholics stop at the Ohio Statehouse during Stations of the Cross Friday and pray for the abolition of the death penalty. (Laura Hancock/Capitol Letter)

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= 9 **Rotunda Rumblings**

= 9 **Hotel bills:** A new House bill would require online travel companies such as Expedia to pay sales and lodging taxes on the rate they sell the room for. The firms currently just pay taxes on wholesale prices. House Bill 571 sponsor Rep. Dave Greenspan said hotel rates will not increase because companies and not customers will pay the increased taxes. Greenspan said customers are generally charged extra fees anyway that go straight into the online companies' pockets and are not shared with local governments.

= 9**Opposition:** Micah Derry of Americans for Prosperity of Ohio is leading the opposition to what he's calling a #GreenspanTax on social media. He said that travelers will inevitably be stuck with higher priced hotel rooms because online travel companies will pass the tax increase on.

= 9 **PUCO responds to FirstEnergy bankruptcy:** Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Chairman Asim Haque said in a 12:15 a.m. Sunday statement that the Akron utility's bankruptcy reorg filing is not a surprise, that Wall Street had anticipated it. He said customers will continue to have electricity. PUCO doesn't regulate nuclear power plants, but it has authority over power lines. Haque said PUCO agreed in 2016 to allow FirstEnergy's parent company to charge customers an additional \$540 million over the next three years to help ensure grid reliability and modernization, and that fee can be extended for two years.

= 9

Kasich signs bills: Gov. John Kasich signed a handful of bills Friday, including: Senate Bill 226, which will make permanent a three-day, back-to-school-shopping sales tax holiday; S.B. 22, which will allow tax deductible contributions for K-12 education expenses in Ohio 529 savings plans; and H.B. 98, which will allow representatives of tech schools or skilled trades to visit high schools at least twice a year.

= A **Campaign details:** The campaign to pass Issue 1, the bipartisan-backed congressional redistricting measure, will rely on targeted digital communication, said Democratic political veteran Keary McCarthy, who is running the bipartisan campaign with the Ohio Environmental Council's Heather Taylor-Miesle, former Ohio House chief of staff Mike Dittoe and former Ohio Senate chief of staff Jason Mauk. McCarthy said the money for digital advertisements will come from business and labor. In addition to

the digital campaign, expect to see Issue 1 on sample ballots that each party mails to its members.

= 9 Differences: This year's Issue 1 campaign strategy is a different from the 2015 campaign for legislative redistricting. The 2015 ballot measure was adopted during a General Election. This year, the measure will be on partisan primary ballots, so each party is tailoring pro-Issue 1 messages differently to voters, McCarthy said. The Democratic firm handling social media is Dennis Willard's Precision New Media. The contract with the GOP firm hasn't yet been signed. Overseeing the effort is a coalition with the following: U.S. Reps. Steve Stivers and Joyce Beatty, Ohio Senate President Larry Obhof, Ohio House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger, Ohio Senate Minority Leader Kenny Yuko, House Minority Leader Fred Strahorn and Ann Henkenner of the League of Women Voters.

= 9

Down to one: Sharon Sweda is now running unopposed in the Democratic primary for Senate District 13 after ex-Oberlin City Councilman David Ashenhurst withdrew his name from the ballot, according to the Lorain County Board of Elections. Sweda, a realtor from Amherst, will likely face GOP Rep. Nathan Manning in the fall for the seat currently held by his term-limited mother, Sen. Gayle Manning.

= 9 Thinking about going back to school? Ohio State University's John Glenn College of Public Affairs tied with American University, Columbia, Duke and Georgia State as the 18th best program in the U.S. for a graduate degree in public affairs, according to the latest rankings from U.S. News and World Report. Cleveland State's Levin College ranked at 59. Ohio University's Voinovich School was 77th, Kent State and the University of Dayton were 135. Bowling Green State was 155. U.S. News didn't publish the ranking of dozens of other schools, including the University of Akron's Bliss Institute.

= 9 Laying into Larry: A mysterious ad targeting House speaker hopeful Larry Householder ad popped up during Sunday morning news shows in the Columbus media market, according to Columbus-based Medium Buying, which tracks political ad buys. "The FBI and Justice Department harassed President Trump, wasting millions on a witch hunt, but they refused to put Crooked Hillary or Lying Larry Householder behind bars?"

an announcer intones in the ad, referring to a 2004 federal investigation into allegations that the Perry County Republican and staffers traded legislation for contributions (no charges were filed). The group behind the ad, the "Honor and Principles PAC," was founded last week in Virginia, though it's unclear who's behind the organization.

= 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

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Check's in the mail: Gov. John Kasich signed Friday the two-year, \$2.6 billion capital budget. Cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt explains the money will pay for improvements to roads, schools, universities and public buildings, as well as dozens of community projects.

= 9 **A bluff?** Numerous critics, including environmental and business groups, responded to FirstEnergy's request that the U.S. Department of Energy help it sell power on the market. The critics said the Akron-based company is spreading a false alert that the electricity grid will experience upheaval as its nuke plants are shuttered. The groups counter that the grid will be fine and FirstEnergy is seeking a bailout, writes The Plain Dealer's John Funk.

= 9 **New member:** Charles Froehlich joins the state school board, having resigned as president of the Avon Lake school board for the new position, The Plain Dealer's Patrick O'Donnell reports. Froehlich is concerned about workforce needs at a time the board's future is debated with House Bill 512, which would strip its education policy authority.

= 9 **Kucinich calling:** The Cincinnati Enquirer's Jason Williams points out that Dem gov candidate Dennis Kucinich's eccentricities – such as calling the investigation of Russian meddling in the presidential race a deep state political hoax, having met with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and once lauding President Donald Trump's inauguration speech – make him an anti-establishment candidate à la Bernie Sanders or Trump. That may be why he's nipping at Dem frontrunner Rich Cordray's heels. In post-2016 America, Cordray may be too boring, he writes.

= 9

Rising star: Term-limited Cincinnati City Councilman P.G. Sittenfeld joins

cleveland.com's Ohio Matters podcast to talk about his political future, which may include a run for the city's mayor. Sittenfeld, who knows how to raise campaign cash, ran unsuccessfully for U.S. Senate as a Democrat in 2016.

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Must be nice: Zinovi Goubar, a psychiatrist with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, made \$590,005 last year, including \$357,593.92 in overtime, according to state payroll records requested by the Columbus Dispatch. Goubar is the first non-university state employee to earn over a half million a year.

= 9 **Here we go again:** Gov. John Kasich returns to New Hampshire this week, which will fuel buzz that he's running for president in 2020, the Dispatch reports.

= 9

About that 'stache: President Donald Trump has typically hired "svelte women and square-jawed, clean-shaven men," writes Wright State University's Christopher Oldstone-Moore in the New York Times. But John Bolton, the pick for national security adviser, has a broom mustache, which "can signal a tendency toward the sort of masculine impulsiveness and aggression that is dear to Mr. Trump's own heart."

= 9 **Abortion about-face?** Sara Carruthers, one of Rep. Wes Retherford's GOP primary opponents in House District 51, is being questioned over a 2016 Facebook post in which she states "I totally support LBGTQ and abortion at a reasonable time of pregnancy," according to Michael Pitman of the Hamilton/Middletown Journal-News. Carruthers now says she's against abortion, noting that she was endorsed last week by Ohio Right To Life's PAC.

= 9

Full Disclosure

= 9 Five things we learned from Bazetta Democratic state Sen. Sean O'Brien's May 15 ethics disclosure statement.

= 9 1. In 2016, he served in the House, earning \$65,584. He is an attorney for Fowler, Goodman and O'Brien, and earned between \$10,000 and

\$24,999 in 2016. He was a partner in both Thread Protector and Supply and S & J Limited Partnership, earning \$1,000 to \$9,999 from each.

= 9 2. He owed at least \$1,000 in 2016 to Ally Bank, Capital One and First National Bank of Pennsylvania.

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3. He has a mutual fund with American Funds, life insurance each with Mass Mutual and Northwest Mutual, and has invested in the Ohio Public Employee Retirement System and Ohio Deferred Compensation.

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4. He received baseball tickets valued at \$184 from the Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association on July 9, 2016. He went golfing Aug. 31, 2016, and the Ohio Credit Union League and Affiliates picked up \$55 in greens and cart fees. He got two free breakfasts in 2016 – one worth \$10 from the Ohio Automobile Dealers Association and another worth \$16 from the University of Akron.

= 95. The state reimbursed him \$5,110.96 in mileage between Columbus and home when he was a representative. The U.S. Air Force Reserve reimbursed him \$1,100 for travel. He is on the Youngstown Air Base Council.

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What's Going On Today

= 9 **11 a.m. – John Kasich, Mark Cuban to attend Axios forum:** The Ohio governor, the billionaire businessman, and the co-founders of the news website Axios plan to discuss the impact of automation and innovation on the future of work. *Performance Hall, Ohio Union, Ohio State University, 1739 N. High St.*

= 9

1 p.m. – State Board of Education Executive Committee meeting. *Ohio Department of Education, 25 S. Front St.*

= 9 **4:45 p.m. – Mary Taylor to campaign in north central Ohio:** The lieutenant governor and GOP gubernatorial candidate has stops planned in Mt. Gilead at 4:45 p.m. and Bucyrus at 6:30 p.m.

= 9

6 to 7:30 p.m. – Exonerated death-row inmate to discuss Ohio's death penalty: Joe D'Ambrosio will participate in a discussion about wrongful convictions and Ohio's death penalty in a forum sponsored by the OSU chapter of Amnesty International. *Tanya Rutner Hartman room, Ohio Union, Ohio State University, 1739 N. High St.*

= 9 7 to 11 p.m. ? 3 Joe Schiavoni to hold March Madness fundraiser: Admission is \$50 (including food and beer) for the event featuring the Democratic candidate for governor. *Cocca's Pizza, 7144 Market St., Boardman.*

= 9

Birthdays

= 9 James M. Cox, Ohio's 46th and 48th governor, 1920 Democratic presidential nominee (1870-1957)

= 9 Straight From The Source

= 9

"My family is in Iceland and Amsterdam. If I went there, the press would really pass out. I just go across state lines."

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-Gov. John Kasich on Friday, joking about how he can't accompany his family on their overseas travels.

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One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your

***essential first read of the morning. Email us at
Capitolletter@cleveland.com.***

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From: Capitol Letter
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2018 6:16 AM
To: Lenzo, Mike
Subject: Lawsuit threat prompts new talks on 5G wireless bill

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Friday, April 6, 2018

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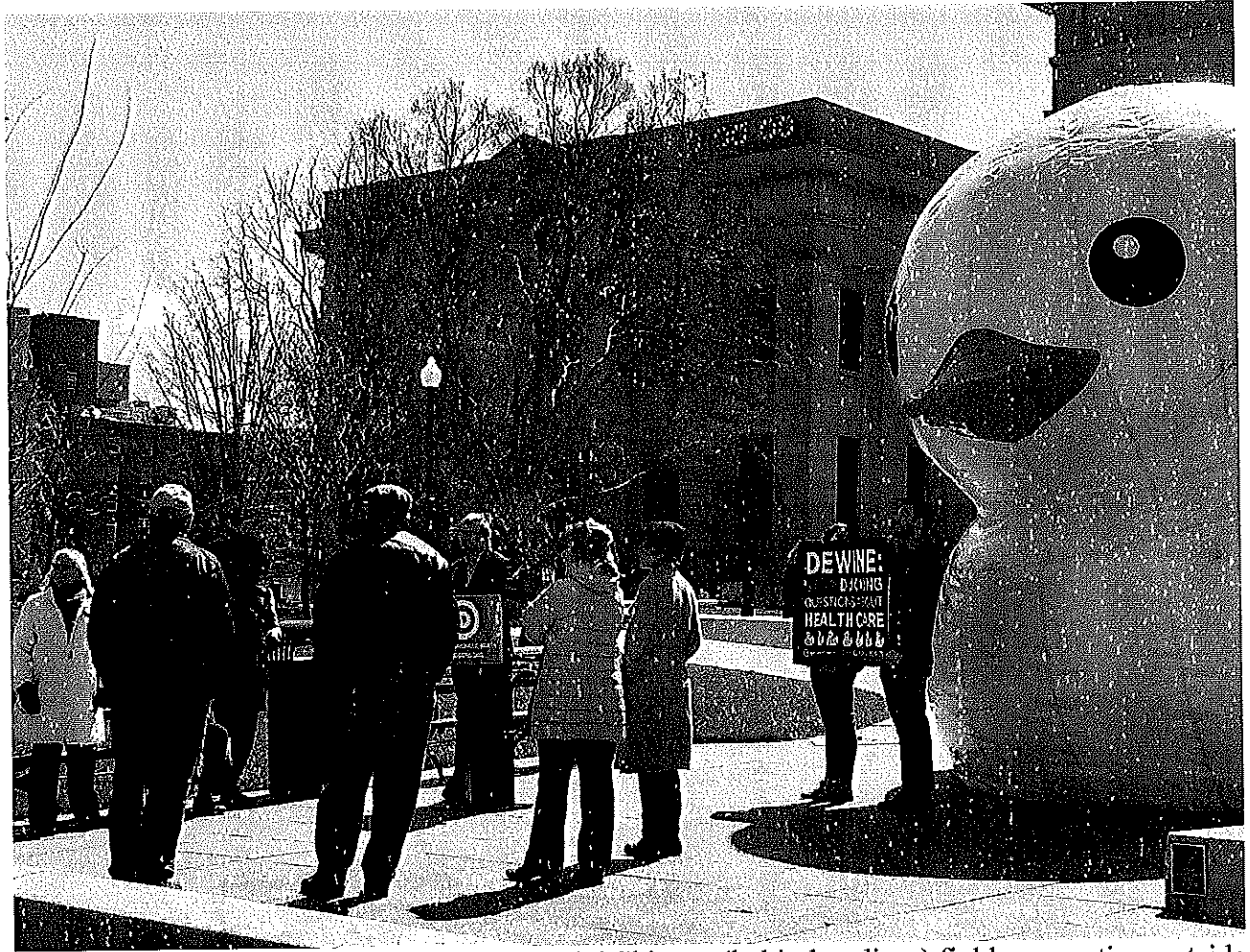
Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

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Ohio University health policy professor Daniel Skinner (behind podium) fields a question outside the Ohio Statehouse on Thursday next to a 15-foot-tall inflatable duck. The Ohio Democratic Party inflated the giant yellow bird to criticize Attorney General/GOP gubernatorial hopeful Mike DeWine for "ducking" questions about Medicaid expansion. DeWine's campaign spokesman said Medicaid expansion is unsustainable, and as governor he will redesign it – using waivers from the federal government – for more flexibility to address the opioid epidemic, among other ideas. (Jeremy Pelzer/Capitol Letter)

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= 9 **Rotunda Rumblings**

= 9 **Bill off line:** Legislation that would limit what cities can charge telecommunications companies wanting to install small-cell antennae for 5G mobile networks has hit a snag. House Bill 478 had cleared the House

and was being considered by the Senate Public Utilities Committee. But a representative from Houston-based Crown Castle – which erects cell towers and leases them to mobile network providers – told lawmakers recently if the bill passes as currently drafted, the company will either sue Ohio or stop investing in the state. Crown Castle is one of three companies that dominates the U.S. cell tower market, according to Reuters.

= 9 **Back to the table:** Crown Wireless' Karmen Rajamani told senators that the company doesn't believe some of the bill's protections for telecomm would be extended to the company, which is why it opposes the bill as written. So senators have ordered a new round of negotiations on the bill, which Crown Castle and Kent Scarrett of the Ohio Municipal League are participating in. H.B. 478 was drafted after House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger told the cities and telecomm companies such as AT&T to hammer out a bill. Some cities sued over the legislature's first attempt to regulate small antennae in 2016.

= 9

Tax revenue exceeds predictions: State tax revenue in March beat projections by 2 percent, or nearly \$28 million, according to preliminary numbers released Thursday. The main reason was that non-auto sales and use tax revenue for the month was about \$30 million, or 5.1 percent, higher than expected. State Budget Director Tim Keen told Capitol Letter he's not yet sure what caused the sales-tax revenue bump. Income-tax revenue, meanwhile, fell below expectations for the second straight month. Keen said that's because of greater-than-expected refunds and the lingering effect of more taxpayers making quarterly estimated payments at the end of December in anticipation of new federal tax changes.

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OD data: While county coroners report drug overdose deaths to the state, it's hard for the public and policymakers to know how many overdoses occur in all – including those in which a user survives. Rep. Theresa Gavarone's House Bill 535 would require hospitals to report each month how many overdoses they treat, which ones were fatalities and which ones were not. The Ohio News Media Association, the Ohio State Medical Association, and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities all support the bill, arguing that better policy decisions will be made when people are better informed.

= 9 **School days:** No opponents have testified yet against a bill that would ban most out-of-school suspensions for students in preschool through third grade. Senate Bill 246, which also requires teachers to train in positive behavior management, has received three committee hearings and has support from a number of organizations, including Nationwide Children's Hospital, the Ohio Federation of Teachers and the Juvenile Justice Coalition. The bill requires that \$2 million in lottery profits be offered in grants to school districts for the training. A fiscal analysis says there could be an increase in costs for in-school suspensions, although the exact amount was not determined.

= 9 **NARAL backs Cordray, snubs Space:** The abortion-rights group NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio on Thursday endorsed Democrat Richard Cordray for governor. The group also backed the other Democratic candidates for statewide executive office, with the exception of state auditor candidate Zack Space. Kellie Copeland, NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio's executive director, told Capitol Letter that was because of Space's 2009 vote in Congress for the Stupak Amendment, an anti-abortion amendment attached to the House version of the Affordable Care Act.

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Bluegrass backing: Republican gubernatorial candidate Mary Taylor on Thursday was endorsed by U.S. Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky.

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Stories We're Talking About

= 9 **Mike and Mary match up:** It wasn't a debate, but an endorsement interview at cleveland.com headquarters on Thursday with Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor and Mike DeWine was pretty close, writes cleveland.com's Andrew Tobias. Among other things, DeWine discussed Medicaid expansion, while Taylor discussed the moment she feels Gov. John Kasich may have begun to stray from "conservative principles" (it also involves Medicaid expansion).

= 9

Softer deadline: "State regulators confirmed Thursday that not all of Ohio's medical marijuana growers, product manufacturers and dispensaries will be up and running by the Sept. 8 deadline in law," cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt reports. For months, observers have doubted that the program would be 'fully operational' by the deadline.

= 9 **Nice work:** Cleveland.com's Sabrina Eaton tells us which Ohio congressional offices had the highest and lowest staff turnover from 2001-2016. Using data gathered by LegiStorm, a Capitol Hill data production firm, Eaton reports that Rep. Tim Ryan had the lowest staff turnover rate of any current Ohio member of Congress. There's lots more in Eaton's report, which also has info on the highest and lowest congressional staff salaries.

= 9 **More protection:** Gov. John Kasich on Thursday signed a bill expanding civil protection orders to dating partners, Borchardt reports. "Ohio law previously allowed spouses, cohabitants and parents to seek protection orders but excluded people who weren't living together," Borchardt writes.

Will add link for the above item after bill signing at 5.

= 9

Gun bill emerges: Kasich's recommended changes to Ohio gun laws have made their way into a bill that was introduced Thursday, the Associated Press reports. Among the changes: a "red flag" law that would

temporarily strip gun rights from people who show warning signs of violence through a new gun violence restraining order," the AP reports.

= 9

Outside help for Balderson: A conservative super PAC has launched a six-figure cable-digital ad campaign in support of Republican Troy Balderson's campaign for Ohio's 12th Congressional District, according to Eric Garcia of Roll Call. The group Defending Main Street, which has sold itself as a foil to the Club for Growth, didn't disclose exactly how much it spent on the ad, which notes that Balderson was endorsed by Ohio Right To Life and voted to cut taxes as a state lawmaker.

= 9 **Condolences:** Mary Regula, the wife of the late U.S. Rep. Ralph Regula, died Thursday at age 91, according to the Canton Repository. Among other accomplishments, Mary Regula founded the National First Ladies' Library in Canton.

= 9 **Five Questions**

= 9 Tim Kane is a Republican candidate for Ohio's 12th Congressional

District. The Dublin resident is an economist, author, and a veteran Air Force intelligence officer.

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1. You've mentioned the need to work across the aisle and, specifically, to create a bipartisan caucus of military veterans if elected. How important is that to you to work with members of all parties?

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"I'm a very principled conservative. ... But I want to bring a tone of respect to Washington, D.C. that I think has eroded. I've made a promise to my wife and myself that I will give people the benefit of the doubt, whether they're liberals or Democrats, instead of trying to misconstrue their words."

= 9 *2. Before the 2016 election, you wrote that you expected a Trump presidency to "cause a great deal of economic damage." Do you feel that prediction has come to pass?*

= 9 "Early in the Republican primary, I had picked a different team and had my doubts, as a lot of conservatives did, that President Trump maybe wasn't going to be a conservative. And he has really surprised us. So I have been delighted."

= 9 *3. Do you think that the president should fire special counsel Robert Mueller?*

= 9 "No, I think we need to respect the process. But let's recognize that it was born in a partisan fashion. What I would call for is a broader investigation. And I'm frankly shocked that Mueller was only empowered to look at Donald Trump. He should have been empowered and tapped to look at the corruption of the Clinton Global Initiative."

= 9

4. You moved back to the district in late 2017. Did you move back specifically to run for this seat?

= 9 "I've been working on a couple books. One's about the impact of immigration on Americans, and I wanted to move home to write that book. ... The run for Congress was a real surprise, and even though I lived here kindergarten through 12th grade, and I did move away when I joined the Air Force, I've always wanted to come back."

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5. *Do you ever get confused with Tim Kaine, the U.S. senator who was Hillary Clinton's running mate?*

= 9 "A lot of people do get confused. When [Clinton] selected this guy to be her vice-presidential pick, CNN.com had my photo [up] for more than 24 hours."

= 9 **On the Move**

= 9 Rachel Petri, who was U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown's deputy communications director, has left Brown's D.C. office to become press secretary for his re-election campaign.

= 9 Melissa Dilley has left Gongwer News Service for a job with governmental affairs for the American Association of Service Coordinators.

= 9

Social conservative organization Citizens for Community Values announced that Curtis Wilson has joined the team as vice president of advancement. In the role, Curtis will spearhead efforts to support and serve Ohio churches, build strong ties with community allies and cultivate support with families throughout the state. He previously worked in major donor development at Americans for Prosperity, among other organizations.

= 9 **What's Going On Today**

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Friday 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Federalist Society's 2018 Ohio Lawyers Chapters Conference: Scheduled attendees include Acting Assistant U.S. Attorney General Chad A. Readler, State Auditor Dave Yost, Ohio Supreme Court Justices Mary DeGenaro and Sharon Kennedy, and Supreme Court candidates Craig Baldwin, Michael Donnelly, and Melody Stewart. *The Westin Columbus, 310 S. High St.*

= 9 **Friday 3 p.m. – Mary Taylor to campaign in Southwest Ohio:** The lieutenant governor and Republican gubernatorial candidate has stops planned in Eaton at 3 p.m., Cincinnati at 5 p.m., and Batavia at 7 p.m.

= 9 **Friday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. – Progressive town hall meeting and voter drive by #PowerToThePolls:** The event will feature comments from Women's March leaders and Nina Turner, president of OurRevolution. *Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland.*

= 9

Saturday 8:30 a.m. – Move to Amend Ohio's annual statewide gathering: Scheduled speakers at the campaign-finance reform group's event include ex-U.S. Rep. Mary Jo Kilroy and Jessica Munger, Move To Amend's national program director. *First Unitarian Universalist Church, 93 W. Weisheimer Rd.*

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Saturday 9:30 a.m. – Mary Taylor to campaign in Brown County. *LaRosa's Pizza, 114 Glover Dr., Mount Orab.*

= 9 **Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Ohio Green Party state convention.** *2231 N. High St.*

= 9 **Saturday 1 to 3 p.m. – Ohio 12th Congressional District candidate debate.** *Hamilton-Williams Campus Center, Ohio Wesleyan University, 40 Rowland Ave., Delaware.*

= 9 **Saturday 6 to 8 p.m. – Dennis Kucinich to speak with best-selling author in Cleveland:** The Democratic candidate for governor plans to hold a conversation with author and lecturer Marianne Williamson. *Shaker Heights Unitarian Universalist Church, 21600 Shaker Blvd., Shaker Heights.*

= 9 **Sunday 6 to 8 p.m. – Joe Schiavoni to campaign in Tuscarawas County:** The Democratic candidate for governor is set to hold a "meet and greet" event. *Daily Grind Cafe, 153 W. High Ave., New Philadelphia.*

= 9 **Birthdays**

= 9

Friday: Rep. Scott Ryan

= 9 Saturday: Sen. Edna Brown, Rep. Brian Hill

= 9 **Straight From The Source**

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"Believe it or not, I don't care. ...I don't mind supporting or opposing presidents in either party on trade."

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- Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, when asked by the Washington Post about the political ramifications of Republican President Donald Trump agreeing with him on the need for tariffs and other protectionist trade policies.

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From: Capitol Letter

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 6:16 AM

To: Lenzo, Mike

Subject: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger stuns lawmakers by announcing resignation amid FBI inquiry

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Wednesday, April 11, 2018

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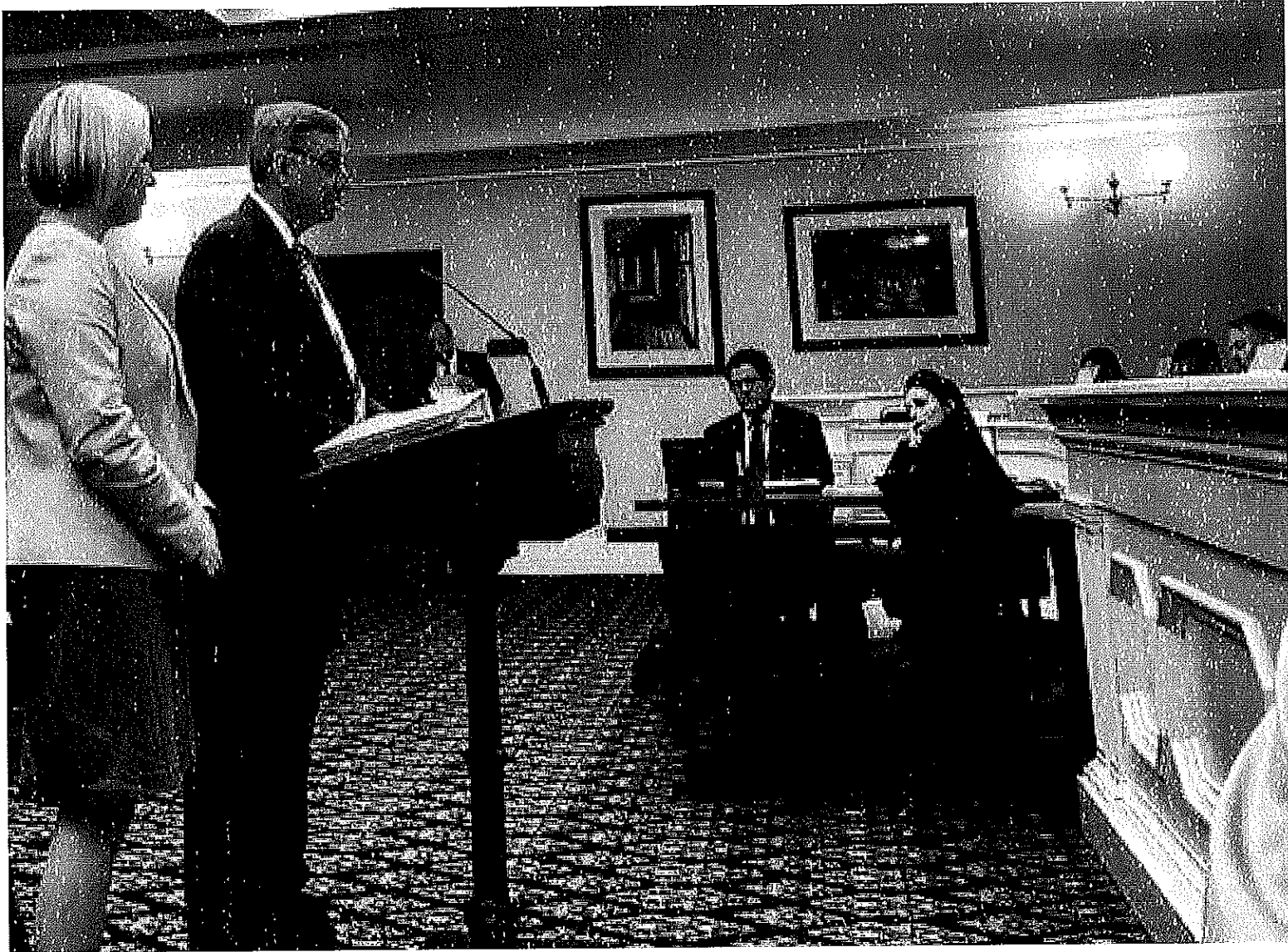
Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

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Reps. Sarah LaTourette, a Republican, and John Patterson, a Democrat, explain to colleagues on the House Finance Committee an amendment to a school resource officer bill that would offer \$10 million to districts to pay for a specialized officer training, among other security measures. (Laura Hancock/Capitol Letter)

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= 9 **Rotunda Rumblings**

= 9 **Cliff dive:** House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger announced Tuesday that he will resign from the legislature on May 1 amid FBI questioning into his spending and travel. It was a shocking and unexpected fall for one of the most powerful politicians in Ohio, coming just a few days after the first media reports surfaced that Rosenberger hired a defense attorney. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, the FBI is looking into a 2017 trip to London that included lobbyists from the payday lending industry, as well as his ties to top GOP donor/Rosenberger's landlord Ginni Ragan. Rosenberger denied any wrongdoing but said he needed to step aside as the inquiry "could take months or even years to resolve."

= 9 **Meet the new boss:** House Speaker Pro Tem Kirk Schuring will step up to handle the speaker's duties until a new speaker is elected to serve through the end of the year. Lawmakers told Capitol Letter that election likely won't happen until after the May 8 primary. "Moving forward, my goal will be to facilitate the operations of this institution as smoothly and efficiently as possible," Schuring said in a statement.

= 9 **Lawmakers stunned:** Several House Republicans told Capitol Letter they were shocked at the news of Rosenberger's resignation. "I didn't foresee anything like this coming," said Wooster Republican Scott Wiggam. "I'm a little bit in shock and I want to know more." Others described Rosenberger as being selfless for giving up his legislative career for the sake of the caucus. "He came into this job having been through a speaker's battle with several factions of our caucus," said Circleville Rep. Gary Scherer. "I've been so impressed at how he was able to pull those different factions together to accomplish a lot."

= 9 **Big bucks added to bill:** The House Finance Committee advanced a bill Tuesday after adding \$10 million to help districts with the cost of school resource officer training, which costs \$500 per officer. The money could also be used for school safety equipment and to help schools identify students with mental health issues. Originally, House Bill 318 merely specified that officers had to take the 40-hour specialized training, but Rep. Sarah LaTourette said Rosenberger and Senate President Larry Obhof

wanted the bill to have training money.

= 9 **No arming teachers:** Testifying in support of HB 318 was Frank Hall, a Chardon High School teacher and football coach who Sports Illustrated called an American hero after he chased a gunman out the school and offered comfort to two boys who eventually died from shooting injuries in 2012. While Hall supports school resource officers, he said he's thankful he didn't take the shooter's life. "I would just think teachers are nurturers by nature. In the heat of the moment where everyone's flying around, I don't have the same training as Officer Shaw has," Hall said, referring to Chardon's school resource officer, Mike Shaw, who also supports HB 318.

= 9 **More for OhioCorps:** Lawmakers cleared from committee a bill that creates OhioCorps, which aims to mentor and prepare for college at-risk high schoolers who come from poverty or homes with drug abuse. The pilot program originally was targeted for Southeast Ohio. But lawmakers adopted a substitute to House Bill 508 that will allow students from all regions of the state to be eligible for the program.

= 9 **Tax talk:** The committee reviewing Ohio's 129 tax breaks is meeting Wednesday morning, for just the second time. On the Joint Tax Expenditure Review Committee's agenda are five tax exemptions. The conservative Buckeye Institute on Tuesday released a list of 20 loopholes it thinks Ohio should close, including the film tax credit and the NetJets loophole for those who buy shares of corporate jets.

= 9 **Phoning ahead:** A telecom deregulation bill designed to help local telephone companies is headed to the House floor after clearing the House Public Utilities Committee on Tuesday. Before reporting House Bill 402, panel members approved an amendment that, among other things, would allow smaller base rate increases than the original bill language would have permitted. The original bill would have allowed rate hikes of up to 20 percent per year; the revised bill raises maximum increases from \$1.25 per month in current law to \$2 per month.

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Senate biz: Ohio Senate President Larry Obhof said there could be 15 bills up for a vote on the floor Wednesday, but the final number will depend on the progress of morning committee hearings. Bills that could be considered

include criminal sentencing changes under Senate Bill 202, known as the Reagan Tokes Act for an Ohio State University student who was kidnapped, raped and murdered; an overhaul of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule (Senate Bill 221); and a bill extending unemployment benefits to spouses who quit their jobs to follow military members to new jobs (House Bill 158).

= 9 **On the House side...** Wednesday's Ohio House floor agenda includes legislation to loosen regulations on banks and credit unions (House Bill 489), set up a \$100 million broadband grant program (House Bill 378), allow dogs on outdoor patios of bars and cafes (House Bill 263), and designate June 12 as "Superman Day" in Ohio (House Bill 135).

= 9 **Cordray hits the airwaves:** Rich Cordray's gubernatorial campaign on Tuesday began airing its first TV ad: a 30-second spot highlighting the Democrat's work as head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. A Cordray campaign spokesman said the ad is running statewide, though Cordray's camp declined to release any other information about the size and scope of the ad buy.

= 9

The old college try: Also on Tuesday, Cordray vowed to make community college free for all Ohioans if elected. In a release, Cordray also proposed using challenge grants to help expand Columbus State Community College's "Preferred Pathways" program, which guarantees students admission and 100-percent credit transfer to a dozen four-year colleges and universities in Ohio. He further favors broadening the Accelerated Study in Associate Program, which offers scholarships, intensive advising, a transportation stipend and other services to community college students. Cordray's plan didn't specify how all this would be paid for.

= 9 **My out-of-town friend's stopping by:** Cordray is bringing in U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts to campaign with him Friday in Cincinnati and Columbus, according to the Associated Press.

= 9 **Return fire:** House speaker hopeful Rep. Larry Householder is firing back against an attack ad with a new \$85,000 TV/radio ad buy, according to political ad-spending tracker Medium Buying. In the TV ad, airing in the Columbus market, the Perry County Republican shoots a gun at a

television featuring an anti-Householder ad from the recently formed Honor and Principles PAC.

= 9 **O'Connor gets some Mansfield love:** Democratic 12th Congressional District candidate Danny O'Connor was endorsed Tuesday by ex-state Rep. Jay Goyal of Mansfield, who briefly considered running for the seat himself, according to a campaign release. O'Connor, the Franklin County recorder, was also backed by three Mansfield City Council members, including Council President Phillip Scott.

= 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

= 9

Dems debate: Tuesday night's debate among the Democratic candidates for governor didn't live up to expectations in terms of razzle-dazzle. But the candidates had plenty to say afterward about the resignation of House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger, reports cleveland.com's Seth Richardson.

= 9 **Seeds of hope:** "Ohio soybean farmers in a pocket of Northwest Ohio say they're willing to gamble on the potential of big tariffs on their crops to achieve a better deal on trade with China," cleveland.com's Mary Kilpatrick reports in the latest installment of the Ohio Matters series. The Seneca County farmers aren't panicking about the threatened tariffs. "They believe President Donald Trump is trying to make trade with China more fair for Americans, and trust him at the negotiation table," Kilpatrick writes.

= 9 **Time to vote:** Early voting is underway for the May 8 primary, cleveland.com's Karen Farkas reminds us. And to help with your decision on Issue 1, the congressional redistricting reform proposal, the secretary of state's office has put out an informational video, the Associated Press reports.

= 9 **Kasich pushes gun legislation:** The father of a victim of the Parkland, Fla. school shooting joined Gov. John Kasich Tuesday to push for "common-sense" gun legislation, cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt reports. "Fred Guttenberg said gun safety measures such as those in a recently passed Florida law would have prevented the death of his 14-year-old daughter Jaime," Borchardt writes.

= 9 **Brown's war chest:** U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, who is unopposed in the Democratic primary but will face a heavily funded GOP challenge in November, has raised a hefty \$19.7 million for his re-election, according to figures released to the Columbus Dispatch.

= 9 **More on campaign money:** In the crowded Republican race for former U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi's seat, state Sen. Troy Balderson reported raising \$410,000, the Dispatch reports. The Dispatch also has a look at Balderson and the nine other GOP candidates in the race.

= 9 **Time to leave?** A day after the FBI raid on the offices of President Trump's attorney, Republican U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan of Champaign County told the Daily Caller Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Deputy AG Rod Rosenstein should be held accountable for leadership over special counsel Robert Muller's Russia investigation. Jordan complained that Congress isn't being kept abreast of the investigation and when lawmakers receive information it's heavily redacted and difficult to understand.

= 9 **Wheels of the bus:** Former U.S. House Speaker John Boehner of West Chester told CNN he is hitting the road on a rented motor coach called "Freedom One" to lend his support to Republicans running for the U.S. House. Boehner has a tradition of campaigning on a bus.

= 9

Full Disclosure

= 9 Five things we've learned about the May 15 ethics disclosure statement of Rep. Rick Perales, a Beavercreek Republican.

= 9

1. In 2016 he earned between \$10,000 and \$24,999 in Air Force retirement income, in addition to his \$66,944 legislative salary.

= 9 2. He's saving for his children's education in a 529 plan. He is also invested in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and Ohio Deferred Compensation. He has mutual funds with Fidelity and Templeton Fund and retirement with the University of Dayton, where he was the school's executive director of facilities from 1998 to 2013.

= 9 3. He owed at least \$1,000 in 2016 to Wright-Patt Credit Union, USAA

Mastercard, PNC Bank, American Express, Pentagon Federal Credit Union and Capital One.

= 9

4. The state reimbursed him \$2,501.20 for mileage between Columbus and home. The National Conference of State Legislatures reimbursed him \$594 for travel.

= 9 5. He received gifts valued at \$364.38 in 2016– including \$95 from the Dayton Development Coalition to register for the Ohio Defense Forum and \$98 tickets to the University of Cincinnati versus Houston football game in the president's box.

= 9 **On the Move**

= 9 The League of Women Voters of Ohio announced Jennifer Miller as its incoming executive director. Miller comes from the Sierra Club of Ohio, where she was executive director.

= 9 Thomas Gallick is a new reporter for Gongwer News Service, taking over for departing reporter Melissa Dilley. Gallick, a Kent State University graduate, previously covered Delaware County for ThisWeek Community News.

= 9 **What's Going On Today**

= 9

7:30 to 9 a.m. – Sen. Vernon Sykes fundraising reception: The Akron Democrat is seeking donations between \$350 and \$1,000. *Capital Club, 50 S. Front St.*

= 9 **8 a.m. – Ohio Library Council legislative day.** *Capital Club, 50 S. Front St.*

= 9

8 to 9:30 a.m. – Rep. Bernadine Kent fundraiser: The Columbus Democrat is seeking donations between \$250 and \$1,000. *Einstein Bros. Bagels, 41 S. High St.*

= 9 **8 a.m. – Ohio General Assembly Cancer Caucus.** *Finance Hearing*

Room, Senate Building.

= **9 a.m. – House Health Committee:** The panel may adopt a substitute bill for House Bill 456, which would ban forced overtime for nurses. *Room 121, Ohio Statehouse.*

= **9:15 a.m. – Senate Public Utilities Committee:** The committee may amend and vote on House Bill 478, which would limit what cities can charge telecommunications companies wanting to install small-cell antennae for 5G mobile networks. *Finance Hearing Room, Senate Building.*

= **9:30 a.m. – House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee:** The committee may amend and vote on House Bill 123, which would reform Ohio's payday-lending rules, as well as adopt a substitute bill for House Bill 525, which would increase the state's film tax credit to \$100 million a year. *Room 313, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9

9:30 a.m. – House Transportation and Public Safety Committee: Panel members are slated to hear testimony on autonomous and connected vehicles. *Room 114, Ohio Statehouse.*

= **9:10 a.m. – Joint Tax Expenditure Review Committee.** *North Hearing Room, Senate Building.*

= **9:10:30 a.m. – Dave Yost, GOP lawmakers to unveil telemarketing bill:** State Sen. Dave Burke and state Reps. Keith Faber and Jonathan Dever will join Auditor Yost in announcing plans for new legislation to stop telemarketers from using misleading caller ID information. *Harding Senate Press Room, Room 109, Ohio Statehouse.*

= **9:11:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. – Habitat for Humanity to build home outside Statehouse:** Lawmakers, staff, and other volunteers plan to build the walls of a house to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. *Ohio Statehouse grounds.*

= **9:11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Reps. Craig Riedel and Kristina Roegner fundraising luncheon:** The Republicans are seeking contributions

between \$350 and \$1,000. *Condado, 132 S. High St.*

= 9 **11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Rep. Laura Lanese fundraising reception:** Rep. Sarah LaTourette is slated to be a special guest. Donation levels range from \$350 to \$1,000. *The Goat, 219 S. High St.*
= 9

Noon – Rep. Bill Reineke to discuss wind turbine bill: The Tiffin Republican and local officials plan to discuss legislation revising Ohio's property setback law for new wind projects. *Harding Press Room, Room 109, Ohio Statehouse.*
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12:30 p.m. – Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish to deliver State of the County address. *Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland, Grand Ballroom, 300 Lakeside Ave., Cleveland.*

= 9 **1:30 p.m. – House Session.**

= 9 **1:30 p.m. – Senate Session.**
= 9

1:30 p.m. – Public Utilities Commission of Ohio meeting. *Room 11B, 180 E. Broad St.*
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3:30 p.m. – Jon Husted to campaign in Youngstown: The secretary of state and GOP lieutenant governor candidate plans to tour the America Makes Innovation Factory and deliver brief remarks. *236 W. Boardman St., Youngstown.*
= 9

5 to 6:30 p.m. – Reps. Steve Hambley and Rick Perales fundraising reception: The Republicans are seeking donations ranging from \$350 to \$1,000. *The Buckeye Bourbon House, 36 E. Gay St.*

= 9 **5 to 7 p.m. – Sen. Sean O'Brien and Rep. John Bocchieri fundraiser.** *Condado, 132 S. High St.*
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5 to 7 p.m. – Legislative candidate Tom Bullock fundraiser: The House District 13 Democratic candidate is seeking donations between \$50 and \$250. *Dempsey's, 346 S. High St.*

= 9 5 p.m. – **Sens. Bob Peterson and Steve Wilson fundraiser:** The Republicans are seeking donations between \$350 and \$1,000. *Athletic Club of Columbus lounge, 136 E. Broad St.*

= 9 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. – **Joe Schiavoni, Stephanie Dodd to hold Zanesville fundraiser:** The Democratic gubernatorial ticket is seeking donations between \$25 and \$500. *Weasel Boy Brewing Company, 126 Muskingum Ave., Suite E, Zanesville.*

= 9 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. – **Mary Taylor to campaign in Wayne County:** The Republican gubernatorial candidate plans to speak at Wayne County Republican Party headquarters. *121 W. North St., Wooster.*

= 9 Birthdays

= 9

Rep. Jay Edwards

= 9 Straight From The Source

= 9

"I haven't been this happy since my husband bought me an AR-15 for Mother's Day."

= 9 - State Rep. Christina Hagan, who is running for Ohio's 16th U.S. House district, announcing her NRA endorsement in a video that also features her shooting the gun.

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One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been

sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at Capitolletter@cleveland.com.

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From: Capitol Letter

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 6:15 AM

To: Lenzo, Mike

Subject: Temporary guardians' rights would be spelled out under new Senate bill

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

[View in Browser](#)



Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer



Rotunda Rumbblings

For temporary guardians: A bill introduced Monday would clarify that families that briefly take in children can sign school permission slips, take the kids to the doctor and receive other guardian rights. Under Senate Bill 291, the guardians would have to be trained by organizations that specialize in temporary child placements, such as the Cincinnati area's Safe Families for Children. For years that organization has kept kids in their neighborhoods and schools while their parents undergo drug or alcohol treatment, look for a new home after an eviction or find work, said sponsor Sen. Bill Coley. The bill also states that child services agencies couldn't investigate parents for abandoning their kids if they agree to temporarily place their kids through an organization.

Beyond methadone: A new bill would expand the types of medicinal treatments that opioid addicts can get in Ohio. State law allows doctors, pharmacists, community addiction centers and other providers to only administer drugs known as opioid antagonists. But in House Bill 601, sponsor Rep. Tim Ginter removed the words "opioid antagonist" and replaced them with the word "drug," to cover new medicines and technologies that are coming to market, he said. The Ohio Pharmacists Association hasn't yet taken a position on the bill.

Doubling down: Despite being sued for defamation, the pro-Ryan Smith Honor and Principles PAC is back with another ad attacking Rep. Larry Householder, Smith's rival to become the next Ohio House speaker. The 30-second spot, airing in the Columbus market, renews its attack on Householder for being the subject of a 2004 FBI investigation. Last week, Householder filed suit against Honor and Principles over its first ad, which had a similar theme. As of Monday, the Virginia-based group has spent a total of \$170,000 on anti-Householder TV and radio ads in the Columbus market, according to political ad tracker Medium Buying (whose founder, Nick Everhart, is a defendant in Householder's lawsuit).

That's not all... The Honor and Principles PAC is also the target of a Federal Election Commission complaint filed Monday by the watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. As

cleveland.com's Andrew Tobias reports, CREW alleges that a March 28 contribution from "LZP LLC" in Columbus to the PAC breaks federal elections law, which bars someone from making a political contribution in someone else's name.

Shine a little light: State Rep. Kathleen Clyde, a Democratic candidate for secretary of state, has a new bill designed to shed light on dark money used in Ohio political campaigns. House Bill 610 (aka the Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light On Spending in Elections Act, or DISCLOSE Act) would require 501(c)4s and LLCs to report their contributors, prohibit state political spending by foreign individuals and corporations, and mandate that campaign-finance reports include details on the sources of a political group's funding. The bill, however, has yet to attract any Republican co-sponsors - something almost always needed for a bill to move through the GOP-dominated legislature.

Leneghan wins more endorsements: Republican 12th Congressional District candidate Melanie Leneghan on Monday announced the backing of the Family Research Council Action PAC, as well as ex-Ohio Secretary of State Ken Blackwell. The endorsements come as the Liberty Township trustee debuted a new TV ad trumpeting her as a Christian conservative who backs President Donald Trump.

SEIU 1199 picks Rich: Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Rich Cordray on Monday picked up an endorsement from the Service Employees International Union District 1199.

Good marks: The East Central Ohio Education Association -- representing teachers in Carroll, Columbiana, Holmes, Stark, Wayne and Tuscarawas counties -- named Democratic Sen. Joe Schiavoni, who is also running for governor, its 2018 Friend of Education.

Stories We're Talking About

Take a number: Who is the biggest career politician in Ohio? If you ask the candidates, you'll get any number of answers. But cleveland.com's Seth A. Richardson developed a formula to help determine mathematically where all the statewide candidates rank.

Cleveland love: Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and a dozen members of City Council endorsed Richard Cordray for governor, Richardson writes. The local officials said Cordray was the only candidate who could help them recover from budget crunches due to tax cuts at the state level.

Blow the whistle: A former employee for the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow said he told the Ohio Department of Education that ECOT officials told staff to mess with enrollment numbers using software, according to the AP's Julie Carr Smyth. State Sen. Joe Schiavoni, a Democrat running for governor, called for a criminal investigation, according to The Vindicator.

Money pot: The Controlling Board on Monday approved \$5.16 million for the state's medical marijuana program, reports cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt. Of that, \$2 million will go toward legal fees associated with lawsuits and administrative appeals over the license application process.

Drama: Columbus Rep. Bernardine Kennedy Kent is beefing with House Minority Leader Fred Strahorn and the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, according to the Columbus Dispatch's Jim Siegel. OLBC President Stephanie Howse said Kennedy Kent forged signatures on OLBC letterhead when sending a public records request to Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther.

The contenders: By now, you probably know that Jim Renacci is leaving his 16th Congressional District seat, but you might not know who is running to replace him. However, cleveland.com's Sabrina Eaton has you covered in her introduction to all the candidates.

Five Questions

Lawrence Cohen, a New Albany attorney, is a Republican candidate for Ohio's 12th Congressional District.

1. As a first-time political candidate, why are you running for Congress, of all races?

"I've sat here and watched what's going on, and I've been frustrated with the politics as usual – the establishment always deciding who's best for us, the big money in politics and feeling like my representative was owned by special interests and was representing them more than the voters. So I decided to get in the race."

2. How would you describe yourself politically?

"I call myself a common-sense conservative. I think if you look at the people in the race today, I'm not one of those candidates that's trying to position myself as the most conservative. ...I think you have people out there that are willing to blindly follow [U.S. Rep.] Jim Jordan or [President] Donald Trump, and I'm really in this to make sure that the people of the 12th Congressional District are represented."

3. What's one thing that you disagree with Pat Tiberi on, if anything?

"A couple years ago, there was a bill that he voted no on that would have given mental health the same level, the same status in society as physical health. And I think that was a mistake. I think mental health is a real issue, despite what some people want to say. ...The other one is, topically in the news, his endorsement of Troy Balderson. I think that we're back into the establishment politics."

4. Tell me about your background.

"After graduating from Ohio State – the first time I worked for [the now-defunct accounting firm] Coopers & Lybrand. ...And did some auditing work for them. Then I went back to Ohio State and got an MBA and a law degree, and was a practicing attorney, doing a lot of business and tax work for about 10 years. After that, I got into the corporate world and worked for three different companies."

5. You have "dotted the I" as a member of the Ohio State marching band. How often does that come up? Is that something people recognize you from?

"When I was knocking on doors in Bellville, I noticed that a guy had some

Buckeye stuff on his porch. And so I said, 'If it matters to you, I also dotted the "I" in Script Ohio,' And he's like, 'Oh, I was in the marching band, too.' It was a great time in my life. ...[Playing in the band] taught me to get along with everybody."

What's Going On

7 a.m. – Ohio Chemistry Technology Council's 30th annual conference: Events include a legislative reception at 5:30 p.m. *Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel, 50 N. 3rd St.*

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Ohio Association of Health Underwriters Annual Day at the Statehouse. *Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square, 75 E. State St.*

11 a.m. – Gov. John Kasich to make workers' comp announcement: The governor is slated to be accompanied by Sarah Morrison, administrator/CEO of the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation. *Land-Grant Brewing Company, 424 W. Town St.*

11:30 a.m. – Rep. Andy Brenner fundraiser: The Powell Republican is seeking donations between \$350 and \$1,000. *Parlor A/B, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St.*

2 p.m. – Mary Taylor to campaign in Cleveland area, Toledo: The lieutenant governor and Republican gubernatorial candidate has stops planned in North Olmsted at 2 p.m. and Toledo at 6:30 p.m.

3 p.m. – Mike DeWine and Jon Husted to campaign in Belmont County: The Republican gubernatorial ticket plans to campaign door-to-door with Ohio voters. *Belmont County GOP headquarters, 7 W. Main St., St. Clairsville.*

5 p.m. – Sens. Matt Huffman and John Eklund fundraiser: The Republicans are seeking donations between \$350 and \$1,000. *Pins, 141 N. 4th St.*

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. – Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Mineral Association

legislative reception. Atrium, Ohio Statehouse.

Birthdays

Jen House, Ohio Young Democrats president

Straight From The Source

"If we don't get this data, someone might get killed."

- Gov. John Kasich, while signing an executive order on Monday to help ensure information about criminal convictions and mental-health adjudications is added in a more timely way to state and federal databases used to identify those disqualified from purchasing guns.

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From: Westlake, Libby
Sent: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 8:54 AM
To: Westlake, Libby
Subject: E-Clips for 5/2/2018

HOUSE E-CLIPS

5/2/2018



OHIO'S TOP COURT TO HEAR ARGUMENTS ON PROMOTIONS TAX DISPUTE

The Ohio Supreme Court has set a date for arguments in a dispute over promotions offered by the Cincinnati Reds to ticket buyers including bobbleheads and other items.

OHIO GOVERNOR TO ANNOUNCE CHRONIC PAIN PRESCRIBER STANDARDS

Ohio Gov. John Kasich is preparing to announce new standards to help people suffering from chronic pain get proper treatment from prescribers to avoid addiction.



KUCINICH SAYS HE GOT \$120K AS CONSULTANT FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD

GROUP

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dennis Kucinich received \$122,000 in consulting fees in 2016 from a group that works for food sustainability and safety, his campaign said Tuesday.

TRUMP ACCUSER GETTING DONATIONS FROM ACROSS US FOR OHIO RACE

The national exposure that has come with her accusations of sexual harassment against President Donald Trump has translated into an unprecedented number of individual campaign contributors for Rachel Crooks' Ohio House campaign.

MIKE DEWINE STRESSES CONSERVATIVE CREDENTIALS IN NEW TV AD

With a week until Election Day, the Republican gubernatorial campaign of Mike DeWine is airing a new TV commercial that it hopes underlines his conservative credentials — and support of President Donald Trump.

SPENDING FOR TV ADS COULD BE TROUBLE FOR ECOT IN UPCOMING AUDIT

The first report regarding ECOT's operations following allegations from an insider that the school used new tracking software to manipulate attendance data will come from the state auditor.

REPORT: BAIL REFORMS COULD SAVE OHIO TAXPAYERS \$67 MILLION A YEAR

A new report from the Buckeye Institute says Ohio could save \$67 million a year in jail costs by changing the bail system used by courts.

OHIO MAY BAN FREE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR LAWMAKERS

In the wake of Republican Cliff Rosenberger's abrupt resignation as Ohio House speaker, state Rep. Niraj Antani is proposing reforms to state ethics laws when it comes to gifts, meals and travel for legislators.

MAY ELECTION: BIG MONEY SPENT IN MIAMI/DARKE COUNTY STATE HOUSE

RACE

Nearly a quarter of a million dollars has been spent on the Republican primary in Ohio's 80th state House district making it one of the most expensive statehouse primary in the region.

THE PLAIN DEALER

AS RICHARD CORDRAY CAMPAIGNS FOR OHIO GOVERNOR, THE FEDERAL AGENCY HE HEADED IS IN TRIAL IN CLEVELAND

A trial that began in U.S. District Court in Cleveland on Tuesday pits the federal agency Ohio Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray once led against a law firm the agency accuses of conducting deceptive debt collection practices.

DENNIS KUCINICH SAYS THE BULK OF HIS CONSULTING FEES CAME FROM ANTI-G.M.O. GROUP

Former U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich's gubernatorial campaign released more details Tuesday about the roughly \$120,000 he received from consulting.

RICK RALEY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR OHIO HOUSE 14:

ENDORSEMENT EDITORIAL

State Rep. Martin J. Sweeney is moving on from his 14th Ohio House District to run for the Ohio Senate, leaving the House seat wide open for four Democrats eager to succeed him -- including his 25-year-old daughter, Bride Rose Sweeney.

DIMITRI MCDANIEL IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR OHIO HOUSE 12:

ENDORSEMENT EDITORIAL

Several strong Democratic primary candidates are seeking to replace term-limited state Rep. John Barnes Jr. in the 12th Ohio House District, which reaches from a slice of southeast Cleveland to Bedford, Bedford Heights, Highland Hills, Maple Heights, Mayfield Heights, North Randall, Orange, Pepper Pike and Warrensville Heights.

THE BLADE

One of America's Great Newspapers

ASHFORD, FEDOR SQUARE OFF IN PRIMARY FOR OHIO SENATE SEAT

Imagine that: A hotly contested race without mudslinging.